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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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Japan

Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe Dies

OW1405234091 Tokyo KYODO in English 2327 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—Former Foreign Minister and prominent conservative politician Shintaro Abe died of heart failure in Tokyo on Wednesday following a two-year batttle against illness. He was 67.

Abe had been hospitalized at Juntendo University Hospital since January.

Abe, leader of the second largest faction in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), had been a leading candidate for the prime ministership prior to becoming entangled in the Recruit Co. political scandal and his subsequent illness.

His uncertain health condition following an operation on his bile duct in May 1989 helped keep the political line-up for prime minister in limbo as other hopefuls were unwilling to discount him, though few expected him to recover.

It was not immediately clear what impact his death would have on his faction or the upcoming contest for the LDP presidency when Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's two-year term of office ends in October.

The president of the LDP serves concurrently as prime minister due to the LDP's majority in the powerful House of Representatives.

Abe was last seen in public April 18 when he attended a luncheon held in honor of visiting Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, whose trip he helped bring about during a visit to Moscow in January 1990.

During that visit, Abe, acting as head of an LDP delegation, unveiled an eight-point program of expanded cooperation and helped pin down a date for Gorbachev's historic trip to Japan, in what was to be his last major achievement in the international arena.

First elected to the House of Representatives in 1958, Abe served as minister of international trade and industry and minister of agriculture, forestry, and fisheries.

He was foreign minister from 1982-86 under former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, the longest tenure in the key cabinet position of any politician in the postwar period.

He also held all three top executive posts of the LDP—secretary general, executive council chairman, and policy affairs research council chairman.

Abe twice ran for the presidency of the LDP, once against Nakasone in 1982 and again in 1987 when he lost out to Noboru Takeshita.

At that time Takeshita gave Abe the post of LDP secretary general and many political sources said he had favored Abe as the next prime minister. However, the plan went askew after Takeshita resigned as prime minister in June 1989 to help restore public confidence in the LDP following the stock-for-favors Recruit scandal that touched all of Japan's leading conservative politicians.

Abe, whose secretary received 17,000 shares in the influence- peddling scandal, also resigned as LDP secretary general.

Born in Yamaguchi Prefecture on April 29, 1924, Abe was the son of a member of the lower house.

After graduating from the University of Tokyo in 1949, he joined the MAINICHI SHIMBUN newspaper where he worked as a political reporter.

Abe served as personal secretary to the late former Prime Minister Nobusuke Kishi, his father-in-law. He was returned to the lower chamber 11 times.

Abe became the leader of the second largest intraparty group in 1986, replacing former Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda.

Ministry on Reported USSR Forces Reductions

OW1405131191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1227 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 14 KYODO—A reported reduction of Soviet military forces stationed on four islands contested by Japan may merely be a seasonal rotation of personnel, Foreign Ministry sources said Tuesday.

The sources were commenting on remarks earlier in the day by a high-ranking Soviet local source that 300-400 ground troops began withdrawing from Etorofu Island, one of the four disputed islands, around May 6 under an order from the Defense Ministry.

"It's normal for there to be movements of Soviet military forces around this time," said one Foreign Ministry source, noting that about a quarter of the estimated 4,500 ground troops on the four islands are regularly rotated in the summer and autumn.

"Of course, we're looking into the validity of the report, but if it were true, it would be inconsistent with what has been coming out of the Soviet Defense Ministry," he said.

Soviet military officials have recently been quoted as saying that forces on the four islands are already at a minimum but that no increases should be expected.

The Soviet official in the Kuril District, where the four islands are located, told KYODO NEWS SERVICE that the withdrawal from Etorofu will be completed in a few months.

He said Soviet troops have also started to withdraw from the other disputed islands of Kunashiri, Shikotan and the Habomai group, in line with a confidence-building proposal made by President Mikhail Gorbachev when he visited Japan in April.

The Foreign Ministry sources said that twice a year, Soviet draftees that have ended their two-year tours of duty are pulled from the islands.

Some 70 percent of the estimated 4,500 troops on the islands, or about 3,000, are believed to be draftees. Some 700-800 soldiers, including 400-500 on Etorofu, are therefore believed to be rotated each summer and autumn, they said.

Total Soviet military strength on the islands is estimated at 10,000, including Air Force personnel.

Cabinet Secretary on Gulf Payments, Rate Variance

OW1505054191 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] In connection with Japan's financial contribution of $9 billion to the Gulf War efforts, U.S. Under Secretary of the Treasury Mulford testified at a hearing of the House Foreign Affairs Committee on 14 May that the United States is asking the Japanese Government to make supplementary payments amounting to $1.2 billion, including an amount resulting from the depreciation of yen against the dollar. During his testimony, Mulford said that of the yen- denominated $9 billion payment made by Japan, the $8.3 billion commitment made to the United States in January was worth $470 million less when actually paid in March. He pointed out that what the United States actually received was only about $7.83 billion. Mulford also said that out of the $9 billion, Japan had also made payments to other coalition governments. He asserted that Britain and France received $700 million, although the entire amount was supposed to be paid to the United States. Under Secretary Mulford revealed that due to this Japan is being asked to make supplementary payments of around $1.2 billion, covering the $500 million loss due to exchange rate fluctuations and the $700 million paid to Britain and France. While Mulford admitted that there had been a misunderstanding between Japan and the United States on the definition of the figure $9 billion in January, he told the media following the congressional hearing that Japan is showing a responsive attitude toward resolving the problem, indicating that negotiations are underway between the two countries.

On this issue, Chief Cabinet Secretary Sakamoto said at a news conference this morning that the payment of $9 billion denominated in yen was an independent decision made by Japan in the Japanese Diet. It has no intention of making additional payments as a result of such factors as exchange rate fluctuations.

U.S. Congressional Fast Track Support Welcomed

OW1505025491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0235 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—The government Wednesday welcomed the support of key committees within the U.S. Congress for an extension of the U.S. President's "fast track" authority in negotiating multilateral trade agreements.

A Foreign Ministry official said the action within Congress "will provide a significant thrust to the stalled negotiations of the Uruguay Round."

The House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee Tuesday both approved resolutions endorsing George Bush's request for a two-year extension of "fast-track" trade negotiating authority.

The fast-track ensures that any multilateral trade accord that the administration submits to Congress will face a simple yes-or-no vote without being subject to nitpicking amendments.

Extension of the authority is considered crucial to the successful conclusion of the current Uruguay Round of multinational trade negotiations, being held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).

The GATT talks have made little headway since a ministerial-level meeting held in Brussels in early December which failed to reach its scheduled conclusion.

The GATT member countries have since remained on the sidelines, awaiting U.S. Congressional approval of an extension of the fast- track before plunging into further serious bargaining.

The Tuesday action by Congress has removed the largest obstacle to the resumption of wholesale negotiations under the GATT.

"We will make every effort to bring the round to a successful conclusion," the official said.

Officials Meet in U.S. on Regional Policy

OW1505033891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0229 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Washington, May 14 KYODO—Senior Japanese and U.S. officials concluded two days of talks on trouble spots in Asia on Tuesday without clear consensus over North Korea's nuclear program and how to bring peace to Cambodia, Japanese officials said.

Japanese officials said the two countries shared common concern over deteriorating relations between the United States and China and urged Beijing to initiate steps to improve the relationship.

Sakutaro Tanino, director general of the Japanese Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, told the U.S. officials that Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu will visit China in August to explain Japanese policy.

Japan and the U.S. had apparently different views about international inspection of North Korea's nuclear program and Cambodian peace initiatives, the officials said.

U.S. officials were not immediately available for comment.

Japan, in the course of negotiations on normalizing relations, has called on North Korea to accept inspection of its nuclear power plants by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), to show that it is not trying to develop nuclear weapons.

North Korea says the U.S. must remove nuclear weapons from South Korea before it will allow such inspections.

The U.S. apparently wants Pyongyang to go further on this issue than just agreeing to accept IAEA inspections.

On Cambodia, the officials said, Japan pledged continued efforts to help implement a peace plan advanced by the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

The U.S. urged Japan to work closely with "other countries interested in the Cambodian peace process," the Japanese officials said without elaboration.

In his meetings with Richard Solomon, assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs, Tanino also discussed Kaifu's recent trip to Southeast Asia, the need for democracy in Myanmar [Burma], developments in Southwest Asia, and the Soviet Union's Asia policy.

Tanino also met officials of the White House and the Defense Department.

Komeito Opposes SDF Disaster Relief Role

OW1505032491 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] The Komeito, in its statement issued in the name of Endo, chief of the Foreign Affairs Department, has criticized the government's efforts to amend the law in order to dispatch an international relief team. The Komeito, in the statement, has claimed: The amendment is aimed at making the overseas dispatch of the Self-Defense Forces [SDF] an established fact based on the excuse of an emergency, and it is not desirable to amend the law. The government's moves run against an earlier agreement reached between the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, the Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party. What we need to do now is to hold thorough debates on what the SDF should be and to make clear the duties and status of the SDF.

Finance Minister Urges Pre-G-7 Meeting

OW1405045991 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 14 KYODO—Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto on Tuesday said a meeting of financial authorities from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrialized countries may be necessary before the London economic summit meeting in July.

Speaking at a press conference, Hashimoto said a meeting of the financial representatives from the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada may be useful to exchange opinions about economic growth rates and inflation, to make the summit proceed smoothly.

But, he said the schedule for such a G-7 meeting has not yet been agreed upon, adding he cannot say when the meeting is possible.

Touching on the yen's value in the foreign exchange market, Hashimoto said he was displeased with the yen's continued weakness against the U.S. dollar in Tuesday morning dealing in Tokyo.

He believes the yen's level can be much higher against the dollar.

In Tokyo interbank trading Monday, the yen sank to the mid-139 yen level against the dollar, the lowest level in three weeks. The Bank of Japan conducted yen-buying intervention for the first time since the end of March, helping the yen end at 139.03 yen, higher than the day's low of 139.68 yen.

The yen opened Tuesday in Tokyo at 139.22 yen, and continued to fall narrowly from Monday's finish, but showed a slight recovery from 139.35-45 yen in New York and 139.30-40 yen in London late Monday. It ended the morning session at 139.12 yen, down marginally from the overnight closing rate.

Asked about Italy's discount rate cut on Sunday, Hashimoto said the move was in line with policy pronouncements by the finance ministers and central bank governors of the G-7 in Washington in April.

Democratic Socialist Party Chairman on SDF

OW1405142791 Tokyo KYODO in English 1213 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 14 KYODO—Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) Chairman Keigo Ouchi said Tuesday that Japan should consider ways of using the Self-Defense Forces (SDF) in the U.N.-sponsored peacekeeping operations.

Ouchi told reporters after returning from an eight-day trip to the United States that the Diet needs to revise laws preventing SDF personnel from participating in such activities.

But he flattly denied the DSP would propose the revision of Japan's war-renouncing Constitution in order to involve active SDF personnel.

The leader of the country's No. 4 opposition party said the international community may look down on Japan unless the country makes visible and substantive contributions by deploying SDF personnel when appropriate.

While in the United States with seven high-ranking DSP members, Ouchi held talks with senior American officials and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Nippon Oil Chairman Comments on Saudi Talks

OW1505145191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1129 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—Nippon Oil Co. Chairman Yasuoki Takeuchi on Wednesday hinted that talks are in progress between Saudi Arabia and three Japanese companies, including Nippon Oil, on the establishment of a joint oil refining venture in Japan.

"The time to secure stable supplies of petroleum from oil producers is approaching," he said in a press conference while commeting on an earlier press report.

The report said that Nippon Oil, Kyodo Oil Co., Nippon Mining Co., and Saudi Arabia's state-run Saudi Aramco had agreed to set up a joint oil refining venture, capitalized at 30 to 50 billion yen.

He said the Saudis were angered by the fact that the talks came out into the open.

Takeuchi suggested that the Saudis were being oversensitive about the matter.

SDP To Hold Convention on Reform in Jul

OW1405122491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0908 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 14 KYODO—The nation's largest opposition group, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), will hold a special convention in July to discuss reform plans for the party, which suffered a major setback in nationwide local elections in April, party officials said Tuesday.

The decision to hold the extraordinary party convention came during a central executive meeting and talks among three top party leaders during the day.

In the meetings, Secretary General Tsuruo Yamaguchi submitted a report on poor party performances in the elections and various party reform moves, including the formation of a "party reform committee."

According to Yamaguchi, the committee, to be set up under the party's central executive committee, will draw up measures to rehabilitate the party. Makeup of the committee is yet to be decided.

In a meeting of Diet members of the party, Chairwoman Takako Doi expressed her intention to remain in office until the party convention scheduled in July.

She said that for the time being she will do her utmost to work out plans for party reform, adding that she has already determined her resolve on the resignation issue.

Some party members have called for a reshuffle of the leadership, including the resignation of Doi, to take responsibility for the party's defeat in the elections and to make preparations for the House of Councillors election in summer 1992.

Local representatives of the party will meet in Tokyo on Wednesday to discuss both party reforms and the leadership reshuffle.

Doi May Quit in Jul

OW1505072591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0607 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—Social Democratic Party of Japan (SDPJ) Chairwoman Takako Doi indicated Wednesday she may step down in July at a special party convention, in the face of strong criticism of the party leadership following a major election setback in April.

"The party will take a new step forward under a new leadership after the convention adopts new policies to rebuild the party," Doi said at an SDPJ meeting, referring to the extraordinary convention scheduled for July.

Doi was addressing a meeting of about 80 party representatives from across the country, which was called to discuss how to rehabilitate Japan's leading opposition party.

She offered an apology to rank-and-file party members for failing to post gains in the April elections.

"I was determined to carry out reforms instead of resigning as I thought it would be necessary for the party to present to Japanese voters concrete plans to revitalize itself," said Doi, who in 1986 became Japan's first woman to head a major political party when she assumed the SDPJ leadership.

She proposed the setting-up of a party reform committee in an attempt to score a victory in the House of Councilors elections scheduled for the summer of 1992.

Doi called for strengthening of the party leadership, strenghtening policy research capabilities, expanding public relations activities, increasing the party's political funds, and forming a shadow cabinet to draw voters' attention.

In the April elections, the SDPJ lost many of prefectural assembly seats.

In the Tokyo gubernatorial election, SDPJ candidate Mitsunori Ohara finished third after Shunichi Suzuki, who was elected to his third four-year term, and Japanese Communist Party candidate Shigeo Hatada.

Further on Doi's Remarks

OW1505084391 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] The Social Democratic Party of Japan [SDPJ], which suffered a crushing defeat in the recent unified local elections, held a national convention of representatives today to discuss how to implement party reforms and the issue of leadership responsibility. Chairwoman Doi indicated at the gathering her determination to effect a radical personnel reshuffle at the special party convention to be held in July, after pooling all the wisdom in the party to delineate a program for party reform.

[Begin Doi recording] The results of the recent elections, as indicated by the decrease in the total number of SDPJ prefectural assembly members, show that the people handed down a harsh judgment to the party and the party suffered a defeat. It was a clear defeat. This responsibility should be borne by myself and the party leadership. We apologize profoundly to our comrades all over the country. We decided to endure all hardships and draw up a plan for party reforms in view of the election results. Fortunately, we have been able to form a party reform committee under the Central Executive Committee in order to pool all the wisdom in the party and listen carefully to people's opinions in drawing up a plan for reform. This reform plan will undergo deliberation at the special party convention and will be passed as concrete measures for reform. We would also like to effect a radical personnel reshuffle to turn over a new leaf. [end recording]

Chairwoman Doi made the above remarks, but did not mention directly whether she intends to stay in office. As for concrete measures for the reform program, Chairwoman Doi cited strengthening the party's executive body, improving the ability to formulate policy, a thoroughgoing upgrading of organizational preparedness for elections, and concrete steps to build a shadow cabinet.

The national convention of SDPJ representative continues deliberations on party reform and the party leadership's responsibility after Doi's address.

LDP Upper House Members Oppose Reform

OW1505043091 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] At a general meeting of the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] House of Councillors Policy Council today, dissenting opinions were aired on Secretary General Saito's personal proposal that elections for the upper house consist only of proportional representation, with voters casting their votes for the various parties and factions in the upper house.

During the general meeting today, attended by 54 LDP members of the upper house, an exchange of views was held on the personal proposal presented by Secretary General Saito recently, favoring revision of the upper house election system, and providing that all members be elected by proportional representation. This was meant to be one of the pillars of political reform. Some of those attending the meeting asserted that if electoral districts for the upper house are abolished and all members are to be elected by proportional represention with votes cast for political parties only, as the Saito proposal suggested, direct ties between voters and Dietmen would disappear, and the position of the upper house would be even weaker. Furthermore, proportional representation would be more advantageous to the opposition and thus, the present reversal of the ruling and opposition parties might continue indefinitely. Other dissenting views were also aired.

Moreover, officials of the upper house Legislative Bureau attending the meeting also pointed out that there are questions in the proposal which have to be considered in relation to the Constitution, such as the provision that individuals cannot run for election. The meeting agreed to continue deliberations.

The LDP is striving to draw up the main points of political reform legislation by the end of this month. In view of the opposing opinions aired against Saito's personal proposal in today's general meeting, some people inside the party are of the view that there might be a delay in drawing up concrete proposals concerning reform of the upper house electoral system.

Bank Governer Remarks on Rate Hikes Study

OW1505094091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0656 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno said on Wednesday the central bank is still gauging the effects on the economy of hikes already made in the official discount rate, and will continue maintaining its current tight monetary policy.

Mieno, speaking at a press conference, said the bank is giving top priority to price stability, and that Japan is not ready to play a "locomotive" role to lead the growth of the global economy.

His remarks were made in response to a question about the possibility of discussions at the London economic summit in July that Japan should become a locomotive for world economic growth.

Mieno said recent falls in land prices in some regions, which resulted from the BOJ's curbs on land-related lending, are good news. But there is no room for optimism about the future course of land prices, since there still remain pockets of high land prices.

He expressed concern about a trend toward an upturn in prices, notably in the service industry, due chiefly to the labor shortage.

Touching on foreign exchange rates, he said the central bank is prepared to step into currency markets in cooperation with other industrial nations if the U.S. dollar advances against the yen "excessively," adding that exchange rates should reflect economic fundamentals.

Governor on Discount Rate Cut

OW1505101891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0808 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Yasushi Mieno Wednesday ruled out an imminent cut in the official discount rate, saying the central bank is still gauging the effects of recent hikes in the official discount rate.

Speaking at a regular press conference, Mieno reiterated that Japan's economy rmains strong and inflationary pressures have not eased.

The central bank will keep the current tight monetary policy, while closely monitoring its impacts, Mieno said.

There have been widespread expectations in financial markets that the BOJ would cut its key lending rate because the central bank early this week allowed the unsecured overnight call money rate, which the BOJ uses to control the short-term money market as a benchmark, to fall below the 8 percent level for the first time in three months.

The yen's weakness against the U.S. dollar, falling into the mid- 139 yen level briefly in Tokyo interbank trading Tuesday, also boosted such expectations.

But the central bank governor's remarks implicitly ruled out an imminent cut in the key rate, pointing to the still strong inflationary pressure.

As an example he cited the labor shortage which he said is continuing to push up labor costs, especially in highly labor- intensive service industries such as transportation.

He also referred to land prices, saying they have not fallen to levels which the central bank can feel at ease about, although the prices fell a bit in some regions. "Land bubbles are still alive," he said.

He said exchange rates should reflect each country's economic fundamentals and the central bank "will take necessary moves," or is ready to step into currency markets in coordination with industrial nations including the United States if it feels the yen's value is too low.

Asked if Japan should cut the key rate in order to act as a locomotive for world economic growth, Mieno said no country in the world expects Japan to sacrifice its economic stability.

His remarks were made in response to a question about possibility of discussions at the London summit of leaders from the Group of Seven (G-7) industrial nations that Japan should become a locomotive for world economic growth.

Ministry To Suspend 9 Firms for Bid-Rigging

OW1505093891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0659 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Tokyo, May 15 KYODO—The Construction Ministry will suspend nine firms suspected of rigging bids for contracts at a U.S. military base from participating in public works project biddings for one month, officials said Wednesday.

The companies are Kyowa Densetsu, Daimei Telecom Engineering, Nippon Comsys, Toyo Denki Tsushin Kogyo, Sanwa-Daiei Electric Construction, J-Cos Corp., Shinko Tsushin Kensetsu, Daiko Denshi Tsushin and Fujitsu Business System.

The nine companies were among 13 firms suspected of participating in bid-rigging on telecommunications contracts worth a total of 103 million yen at the U.S. Yokota Air Base near Tokyo between 1981 and 1988.

In a related development, the U.S. Justice Department announced last Thursday that NEC Information Technologies, the U.S. subsidiary of major Japanese electronics firm NEC Corp., agreed to a 34 million dollar settlement with the U.S. Government for alleged involvement in the bid-rigging affair.

North Korea

ROK Worker Defects Through MDL to North

SK1405143691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1357 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] This new has just come in. Youth Pak Sun-chol of South Korea defected to the northern half of the republic by crossing the Military Demarcation Line [MDL].

At a time when the aspirations for national reunification and admiration of the northern half of the republic are being enhanced more than ever among the South Korean people, students, and youth, Pak Sun-chol, a 29-year old South Korean worker, today defected to the northern half of the republic by crossing the MDL in the west frontline.

He stated that he was greatly disillusioned with the South Korean society, a corrupt and irregular U.S. colony where even basic freedom and rights of men are totally trampled underfoot, where the rich-poor difference is becoming serious as time passes, and where fraud and swindling are rampant. He said that he endlessly yearned for socialism in the North where all the working masses are enjoying an equal, happy, and blessed life under the mass-centered system of the great President Kim Il-song and dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il without knowing any discrimination of occupations.

Noting that he succeeded in crossing the Armistice Line and breaking through the death line, youth Pak Sun-chol said that he cannot repress joy for having realized his desire for defection.

He is under the warm protection of the relevant organization.

Rally Held for Defector Chi Yong-chun

SK1405152791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1505 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—A Pyongyang rally was held today to welcome Chi Yong-chun who was an employee at the Mudung Hotspring Tourist Hotel in Kwangju, South Korea, before defecting to the North some time ago.

At the rally, the defector was awarded an Order of the National Flag and a large sum of prize money together with souvenirs.

In his welcome speech, Sin An-pang, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, praised the defection of Chi Yong-chun as a righteous act against a disgraceful life in South Korean society, a colony of U.S. imperialism, and as an expression of his warm patriotism to devote himself to the withdrawal of foreign forces and to the promotion of national reunification, the supreme desire of the nation.

Speaking in reply Chi Yong-chun said that the No Tae-u military fascist clique is brutally suppressing the patriotic students and people who have risen up to end the fascist dictatorship and build a new democratic society and desperately trying to stifle the massive struggle.

The traitor No Tae-u is a more truculent fascist tyrant than any of the preceding dictators, Chi said.

The South Korean people are convinced that if they trust and follow the great President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il as the sun and the lodestar, the morning of reunification will certainly break, Chi Yong-chun stressed.

SKNDF Official Urges South Workers' Struggle

SK1305071291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0642 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—The director of the worker peasant department of the Central Committee of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) in a statement May 8 charged that the death of Pak Chang-su, chairman of the trade union of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co., is one more unpardonable murder committed under the "security-oriented rule" and a product of the brutal fascist suppression of the labor movement, according to a report of radio Voice of National Salvation from Seoul.

Noting that the murder of Chairman Pak Chang-su by the No Tae-u ruling group is a tragic incident on the extention line of the murder of a student Kang Kyong-tae, the statement continues:

The No Tae-u group illegally whisk off thousands of workers without warrants by attacking peaceful sit-in sites of bare-handed workers from the sky, ground and sea and arrest, torture and murder hard-core members of the labor movement by stealth.

With no crafty trick can the No Tae-u group evade the responsibility for the murder of Chairman Pak Chang-su.

The way for the workers to live a worthwhile life lies in destroying the "security-oriented rule" and overthrowing the No Tae-u "regime".

The statement calls upon the 10 million workers to raise up in the anti-No struggle.

SKNDF Holds Service for South Students

SK1005153091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1504 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—A memorial service for paying last homage to student Kang Kyong-tae, Kim Yong-kyun, Chon Se-yong, Pak Chang-su and Kim Ki-sol who fell victims to No Tae-u's fascist outrages took place at the mission of the South Korean National Democratic Front [SKNDF] (Hanminjon) here Thursday.

The participants honored the memory of the patriotic martyrs who devoted their lives to the sacred struggle against fascism and for democracy.

Student Kang Kyong-tae of Myongji University in Seoul died a tragic death, his head and ribs fractured, beaten by police with iron pipes, on April 26 when he was participating in a peaceful demonstration together with his fellow students in the university town, demanding the ouster of the present "regime" and the release of arrested students. Following this, Kim Yong-kyun, Chon Se-yong and Kim Ki-sol burned themselves to death, condemning the murderer No Tae-u.

In his memorial address, chief of the mission Cho Il-min said the death of Kang Kyong-tae and self-immolation of martyrs following it have given rise to shouts of resentment "Down with No Tae-u, the chieftain of murder".

The traitor and murderer No Tae-u, in a bid to prevent the fierce resistance of the angry students and people of various strata from developing into an all-people resistance, outwardly put the blame on a few perpetrators of murder and is plotting a more indiscriminate suppression behind the scene at the instigation of his master, the U.S. imperialists, he said, and added:

With no amount of appeasement, deception and cold-blooded suppression, can he save the destiny of the pro-U.S. dictatorial group which has already reached the limit.

Then, an official of the mission recited a poem "To Martyrs Who Threw Up Sparks" in memory of the deceased.

KSC Sends Condolence Letter to Chondaehyop

SK1305054491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0531 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—The Korean Students Committee (KSC) in a letter to the South Korean National Council of Student Representatives (Chondaehyop) Sunday expressed deep condolences over the death of fellow students Kang Kyong-tae, Kim Yong-kyun, and Chon Se-yong who laid down their lives for democracy and patriotism and supported and encouraged the undaunted struggle of the one million fellow students of "Chondaehyop" who are raising high the flames of the righteous anti-U.S., anti-fascist resistance.

The principal culprits in the murder of Kang Kyong-tae are not combat policemen but the No Tae-u ruling group and its ringleader is the United States, the letter said, adding: the way of preventing the recurrence of the Kwangju bloodbath and making the death of Kang Kyong-tae the "last" one in the true sense of the term lies in ousting No Tae-u and breaking off the tentacles of the U.S. interference.

No one can block the road of the one million fellow students of "Chondaehyop" who are rushing to the bulwark of the fascist murderous "regime," to take revenge for the death of fellow student Kang Kyong-tae, while inspiring millions of people of South Korea including workers and peasants, the letter stressed.

Reunification Group Denounces No Tae-u Rule

SK1105154291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1514 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Yu Ho-chun, director of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, published a statement today bitterly denouncing the shocking brutality of the No Tae-u ruling group in driving hot-blooded young people including Kim Ki-sol, head of the Social Affairs Department of the

Coalition for National Democratic Movement of South Korea, into self-immolation, branding it as a most beastly human-butchery.

Yu Ho-chun said:

The anti-No Tae-u struggle has rapidly expanded in South Korea since the murder of Kang Kyong-tae to develop into the largest mass protests ever under the "sixth republic" the scale of which is no less than the June resistance. This is a deserved punishment to the fascist murderous "regime" and a reflection of the unanimous will and unbreakable faith of the South Korean people who are determined to put an end to the No Tae-u dictatorial rule.

But, the fascist rulers are making an investigation, spreading the false rumour that Kim Ki-sol's self-immolation was "prompted" by someone and "manipulated behind the scene" by an organisation. This is a flagrant insult to the righteous death of the martyr and to the angry people.

The South Korean students and people should undauntedly fight on till they have ousted the murderous "regime," had the "Democratic Liberal Party" totally dissolved and brought the mastermind of murder to the court for people's judgement and punished him.

The United States must immediately withdraw from South Korea along with its aggression forces and nuclear weapons, no longer patronizing and encouraging No Tae-u the fascist murderer, hindering the South Korean people's anti-No Tae-u struggle and interfering in the internal affairs of our nation.

South Called 'Graveyard of Human Rights'

SK1405235491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—South Korea has turned into a graveyard of democracy and human rights where patriotism and justice are trampled down by treachery and injustice and even elementary human rights are cudgelled by fascism, says NODONG SINMUN today in a by-lined article titled "South Korea, Graveyard of Human Rights".

What is most problematic in the human rights situation of South Korea is that elementary democractic freedom and rights of the people are violated institutionally, the article says, and continues:

It is only in South Korea that repressive armed forces are reinforced and a war is launched against the masses of the people.

It is one of important aspects of the human rights situation of South Korea to suppress not only those who conduct democratic and patriotic activities but also workers, peasants and other working people who struggle for vital rights, branding them as "left pro-communist forces".

The movement for independence, democracy and reunification, that is a matter pertaining to the rights and obligation of all the nation, is criminalized in South Korea now.

Yim Su-kyong who participated in the 13th World Festival of Youth and Students, Father Mun Kyu-hyon, members of the South side's promotion headquarters for the Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification (Pomminnyon) who participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks of Pomminnyon and other people who visited the North or discussed the reunification question with fellow countrymen of the North and even people who wanted to get a correct understanding of the North have been thrown behind bars on unjustifiable charges.

The No Tae-u ruling group recently beat to death with iron pipes Kang Kyong-tae, a student of Myongji University in Seoul, by letting loose riot police and the white bone group. It also tortured to death Pak Chang-su, union chairman of the Hanjin Heavy Industries Co. and announced that he committed "suicide by jumping off a rooftop".

The brutal tortures of prisoners that defy description are openly committed in South Korea.

The No ruling group practices water torture, fire torture, electric torture and all other means and methods that can give agony and harm to the people to harass prisoners and force false testimonies out of them and their conversion. It is an unpardonable insult and vicious challenge to the people.

If democracy and civil rights are to sprout and settle in South Korea, the present military fascist dictatorial "regime" must be replaced with a democractic government and the "Democratic Liberal Party", the abode of the reactionary conservative forces, be dissolved.

U.S. Said 'Putting Pressure' on Japanese

SK1505044491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0430 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—The International Liaison Committee for the Reunification and Peace of Korea in an editorial of its bulletin on April 30 said that the United States and the South Korean authorities are putting pressure on the Japanese authorities over the question concerning the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations.

Noting that if the DPRK is to sign the Nuclear Safeguards Accord, objective circumstances and conditions for it should be created, the editorial said that the principled agreement on this has been reached between the DPRK and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

The United States and the South Korean authorities did not utter a word about this, putting pressure on the Japanese authorities to raise the question of signing the Nuclear Safeguards Accord as a requisite to the normalisation of DPRK-Japan diplomatic relations, it stated, adding:

The United States has turned South Korea into a horrible nuclear base and repeatedly threatened to use nuclear weapons against North Korea.

U.S. Engaged in Campaign of 'False Propaganda'

SK1205094591 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0844 GMT 12 May 91

["Ridiculous Nuclear Outcries of U.S. Military Authorities"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—The U.S. military authorities are these days engaged in a ridiculous campaign of false propaganda against us, alleging that we are "developing nuclear weapons".

According to reports, U.S. Undersecretary of Defense Wolfowitz made his appearance at a forum in Tokyo on May 10 and, twaddling about the security problem in the Asian-Pacific region, let out the noisy outcry that the most serious threat to this region is the move of North Korea and it is going ahead with arms expansion and nuclear development.

In this strange clamor persistently raised by it, the United States pursues the sinister aim of impairing the anti-war, anti-nuke peaceloving stand and the high international prestige of the DPRK and covering up its criminal acts in increasing the danger of nuclear war violating the nuclear non-proliferation treaty.

No matter how hard the U.S. military authorities are engaged in the false propaganda, they cannot distort and veil the truth.

As is known, the DPRK, which signed the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty on December 12, 1985, proposed to denuclearize the Korean peninsula already many years ago; it has stated not only once that it is not developing nuclear weapons and has no capability to do that and denuclearization and anti-nuclear weapons is its consistent stand.

The U.S. imperialists, however, declared South Korea the "frontline region of the U.S. strategy" and deployed more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons of various kinds and 40,000 troops there, thus converting it into the biggest nuclear forward base in the Far East and the most dangerous hotbed of nuclear war. While systematically conducting nuclear war exercises of different types including the large-scale "Team Spirit" joint military exercises, they have constantly increased nuclear threat against the DPRK.

If they truly want the removal of the danger of nuclear war on the Korean peninsula, the U.S. imperialists must legally commit themselves to nuclear safeguards for us and take the nuclear weapons of all types out of South Korea at once, instead of resorting to the fabrication and deception that go down with no one.

Choe Tae-pok Delegation Arrives in Egypt 10 May

SK1105041591 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 9 May 91

[Text] A Workers Party of Korea [WPK] delegation led by Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, arrived in Cairo, Egypt, on 10 May. The delegation was received by Sa'di Muhammad 'Ali, member of the General Secretariat of Egypt's National Democratic Party, secretary in charge of industries and commerce, and former minister of higher education; as well as our country's ambassador to Egypt.

Meanwhile, the delegation left Damascus on 7 May after concluding its visit to Syria. The delegation was seen off at the airport by (Murun Sanan), member of the National Leadership of the Syrian Arab Social Reconstruction Party; the director of the External Relations Department of the party's national leadership; the director of the party's Secretariat; other relevant officials; and our country's ambassador to this country. During its stay in Syria, the delegation met with Qaddur, Syrian minister of state for foreign affairs, and (Suleiman Qatah), deputy secretary of the Regional Leadership of the Syrian Arab Social Reconstruction Party, and held a conversation with them in a friendly atmosphere. It also visited cultural ruins and markets in Damascus.

Cooperation Protocol Signed

SK1305064391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0606 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—A 1992-1993 protocol on cooperation between the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and the Egyptian National Democratic Party [ENDP] was signed in Cairo on May 11.

It was signed by Choe Tae-pok, secretary of the WPK Central Committee, and Gamal Chadli, deputy general secretary and organisational secretary of the ENDP.

Kim Il-song Sends Solidarity Message to 'Arafat

SK1405112291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1029 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on May 14 sent a message of solidarity to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the state of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on the occasion of a "week of support to struggle of Palestinian people".

The Palestinian people have fought a protracted struggle to liberate their land from the occupation by Israel and restore legitimate national rights including the right to return home, the right to self-determination and the right to found an independent state, the message says, and goes on:

Their just struggle which is going on still today is enjoying support and sympathy of the people all over the world.

The Korean people will in the future, too, firmly stand on the side of the fighting Palestinian people and extend positive support and encouragement to their cause.

The message wishes the president and Palestinian people greater success in their struggle for the victory of the Palestinian revolution and expresses the belief that the friendship and solidarity between the two peoples will be strengthened further still.

Articles Support Palestinian Struggle Week

SK1505052091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0441 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—Papers here today dedicate signed articles to the "week of support to the struggle of the Palestinian people" which begins in the DPRK from May 15.

Various solidarity functions supporting the Palestinian people's struggle are to be held in the week, the author of a NODONG SINMUN article notes, and says:

The Korean people established bonds of friendship with the Palestinian people a long time ago and have cemented and developed them.

The struggle of the Palestinian people is a cause of justice to retake the homeland from the Zionists and restore all their legitimate rights. They are now waging a relentless struggle against the aggressors.

The problem of Palestine must be resolved quickly.

It is entirely due to the aggressive maneuverings of the Zionists and intervention of the imperialists that this problem cropped up and has not been resolved until today.

If the legitimate rights of the Palestinians are to be restored and the Middle East issue is to be settled in a peaceful and fair way, the Zionists must give up their policy of aggression and withdraw from the occupied Arab lands without delay and an end be put to the intervention of the U.S. imperialists in this region.

The Korean people will as ever extend full support and encouragement to the just struggle of the Palestinian people and fight together with them on the common frontline against imperialism and for independence.

MINJU CHOSON wishes the Palestinians greater achievements in the struggle to establish an independent state, overwhelming suppression and persecution by the Zionists.

Yang Hyong-sop Meets With Iranian Delegation

SK1005154291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1513 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Supreme People's Assembly, today met and had a friendly conversation with a delegation of the Education and Training Commission of the Iranian Parliament led by its head Mohammad Gomi [as received] who paid a courtesy call on him at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

The head of the delegation congratulated the Korean people upon their achievements in socialist construction and pointed to the daily developing friendly relations between Iran and the DPRK.

He stressed that Iran fully supports the Korean people's struggle for national reunification.

Foreign Minister Meets With Zairean Delegation

SK1005153891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1512 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 10 (KCNA)—Vice-premier and Foreign Minister Kim Yong-nam today met and had a friendly conversation with the Zairean parliamentary delegation headed by second Vice-president of the National Assembly Meneng Ma Kong [as received] at the Mansudae Assembly Hall.

O Chin-u Meets With New Nicaraguan Ambassador

SK1505105391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1020 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—O Chin-u, minister of People's Armed Forces, today met and conversed with Ivan Ariel Mejia Solis, newly-appointed Nicaraguan ambassador e.p. to Korea, who paid a courtesy call on him.

Kim Yong-sun Meets With Bangladesh Delegation

SK1105050391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0453 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—Kim Yong-sun, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, met and had a friendly conversation with the delegation of the Nationalist Party of Bangladesh headed by A.S.M. Hannan Shah, member of the Central Executive Committee of the party, on May 10.

Kim Il-song Speaks at Geological Meeting 15 May

SK1405151491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1458 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 14 (KCNA)—May 15 is Geological Prospecting Day in Korea.

The great leader President Kim Il-song indicated the road ahead of geological prospecting in his speech at a National Consultative Meeting of Geological Prospecting Workers on May 15, 1961 "On Giving Definite Priority to Geological Prospecting".

This day is annully commemorated as Geological Prospecting Day.

The geological prospecting workers across the country are greeting the day with great achievements.

The geological prospecting corps under the Ministry of Natural Resources Development have found more than fifty kinds of new mineral resources including ores which had been believed to be non-existent in the country in the past 30 years and secured enormous deposits of underground resources making it possible to develop over 300 large-scale ore and coal mines and 2,000 minor mines.

They helped firmly build up coal production bases in Anju District, South Pyongan Province, Kowon, northern district and other places and secured more than a billion tons of sapropelic coal deposits in the central and western districts of the country.

And they have secured deposits so that the Musan Mining Complex, Komdok Mining Complex and other large-scale iron ore and nonferrous metal ore production bases may pay off profusely.

They have also discovered large deposits of rare metal, nonmetal and alloy element ores and raw materials for the building materials industry and the production of basic chemicals.

As a result, gigantic enterprises such as the Taehung Youth General Mining enterprise and the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer Complex have been built and are under construction.

In this course, the geological map of the country has been completed on a scientific basis.

Kim Il-song Meets 'Early Period' Revolutionary

SK1505110391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1021 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song on May 15 received Son Won-tae, a U.S.-resident Korean who was a member of the Association of Korean Juveniles in Jilin in the early period of the revolutionary activities of the president, and his companions.

Present there were Kang Sok-sung, director of the Party History Institute of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and other officials concerned.

President Kim Il-song had a cordial conversation with Son Won-tae, looking back with deep emotions upon the situation of the national liberation movement in our country in the early 1930s and upon the activities of the members of the Association of Korean Juveniles in Jilin.

He arranged a luncheon for the guests.

'Advantages' of North's Socialism Style Viewed

SK1105053291 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0510 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 11 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today editorially calls for giving fuller scope to the advantages of socialism of our own style, a man-centred society where every thinking focuses on man and everything is made to serve them.

Our style socialism, an embodiment of the chuche idea, today is a society with a vast prospect which is most stable in politics and animated in all fields of life in the world, an invincible society which is advancing without wavering in face of any challenge of the imperialists, the editorial declares, and continues:

What is important in giving full play to the fundamental advantages of our style socialism is, first of all, to thoroughly apply the party's idea and theory concerning it, making them one's faith, and thoroughly meet the intrinsic demand of man.

In order to highly display the fundamental advantages of our style socialism, it is also important to live a sound and revolutionary life in all fields of politics, economy, ideology and culture.

The highest pride of our style socialism lies in that the party and state look after the life of the people, fully responsible for it.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has energetically led the work to give full play to the fundamental advantages of our style socialism, and thus our people are firmly guaranteed not only a worthy life today but future happiness. It is the steadfast will of our people to advance along the road of socialism to the end, deeply cherishing in their minds the care of the party and entrusting all their destinies to it forever.

Our people will constantly give full play to the fundamental advantages of socialism in one mind with the party at all times.

Anniversary of Kim Chong-il Guidance Marked

SK1205095791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0854 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 12 (KCNA)—Twenty years have passed since the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il gave an on-the-spot guidance to Chongsan-ri.

In order to successfully carry into practice the far-reaching plan of rural construction of the great leader President Kim Il-song, Comrade Kim Chong-il on May 12, 1971 went to Chongsan-ri, Nampo Municipality, and showed noble popular traits by personally transplanting rice-seedlings.

He indicated a programmatic guideline that should be firmly maintained in socialist and communist rural construction from the question of energetically conducting ideological education including education in loyalty and in the spirit of repaying kindness among the peasants to the question of freeing the peasants from toilsome and difficult work by realizing the comprehensive mechanization of the rural economy.

Since then, he called at Chongsan-ri on more than 20 occasions, guiding Chongsan-ri to dynamically carry on the three revolutions, ideological, technical and cultural, and lift before others the torch of the three-revolution red flag movement.

A meeting marking the 20th anniversary of the on-the-spot guidance of Comrade Kim Chong-il in Chongsan-ri was held on the spot on May 11.

Present on the occasion were secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea So Kwan-hi and vice-premiers of the Administration Council Kim Chang-chu and Chang Chol and officials concerned.

Article Commemorates Kim Chong-il Work

SK1505103991 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1011 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today carries an article contributed by Major General of the Korean People's Security Forces Kim Tok-sam, hero of the republic to the 3rd anniversary of the publication of "Let Us All Live and Struggle Like Heroes," an immortal classical work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, on May 15, 1988.

The work is a highly important work vigorously inspiring the entire people to new heroic feats by inheriting the heroism of the Korean revolution.

It analyses the present-day realistic demand for heroic living and struggle, proudly sums up the heroic fighting feats performed by the Korean people for the times and history and the proud traditions of heroism and expounds the essence of heroic life and its ways in an all round way.

The article says:

The great significance of the work, first of all, clarifies the proud traditions of heroism displayed on the road of our revolution so that our people and People's Army soldiers can carry forward and develop them brilliantly.

The article quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"Our people have the proud traditions of fighting heroically for the fatherland and for the revolutionary cause of chuche."

The heroic fighting traditions established under the leadership of the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song are important historical sources which help people to step up revolution and construction with the spirit and trait of heroism.

As is stressed in the work, the great leader started and led our people's heroic struggle to victory at each stage of the development of the revolution, and established the proud traditions of heroism.

It is a sure guarantee for the victory of socialist cause and a noble duty of all of us to defend and inherit the traditions of heroism established by the great leader and glorified by the dear leader.

The theoretical and practical significance of the work also lies in inspiring the entire people to live and struggle like heroes by clarifying the loftiness of heroic life and its road.

Living and fighting like heroes means devotedly struggling for the revolutionary cause of the popular masses, not for one's own interests and fame.

As man lives as a member of society and the collective, not living isolated, the value of life is appraised by how much he contributes to society and the collective. The more he contributes to the country and the nation and the revolutionary cause of the people, the worthier his life is.

Particularly, the theoretical and practical significance of the work lies in encouraging the heroism of our people by putting forward the militant slogan "Let us all live and struggle like heroes."

The work clearly expounds ways to vigorously rouse our people and soldiers to perform massive heroic feats, while pushing ahead with the Three-Revolution Red Flag Movement and the campaign to follow the examples of the unassuming heroes, combining heroic struggle with modern science and technology and enhancing the role of the party organisations.

Construction of Apartments in Pyongyang Reported

SK1305150891 Pyongyang KCNA in English
1457 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—The construction of 50,000 flats which will be completed by the end of this year in the capital city of Pyongyang is now progressng rapidly.

Far more than ten thousand flats have already been completed and outside plastering of thirty thousand flats has been carried out.

In the residential quarters the construction of nurseries, kindergartens, schools and various kinds of modern service facilities are also going on at full speed. Sixty odd objects of them have been completed or are at the finishing stage.

In addition, a large-scale water reservoir, the laying of large service water pipes and pipes for compressed sending of sewage are near completion and construction of different establishments are successfully progressing.

In this course, the constructors have brought into shape a new speed of construction by assembling 200 flats in a day at the construction site of Tongil Street (Reunification Street) named with earnest desire of the nation.

Now, in the southern part of Pyongyang which was a plain in January last year Tongil Street which resembles a whole city with a 120 metre wide main road, tens of thousands of high-rise and super high-rise buildings and numerous public buildings and facilities has taken shape.

In the second stage of Kwangbok Street in the western part of the city, big apartment houses of unique styles and architectural beauty have been built, changing the looks of the street.

And the residential quarters and public buildings which have changed the appearance of the city have been built in other places of the city.

Developments in Machine-Building Industry Noted

SK1505151991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1502 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—The machine-building industry is making a rapid development in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

It supplies sets of plants to various domains of the national economy including metallurgical, chemical, building materials, electric power, mining and light industries.

It meets 98 percent of the home demand for machines by its products.

There are hundreds of machine production bases proportionately distributed across the country, the backbones of which are the Ryongsong General Machine Bureau, the Taean Heavy Machine Complex, the Nakwon Machine Complex, the May 10 General Works, the Huichon General Machine Tool Works, the Kim Chong-tae General Electric Locomotive Works, the October 5 General Automation Works, and others.

The Ryongsong General Machine Bureau in the industrial city of Hamhung mainly produces facilities for metallurgical, chemical, building materials and machine-building industries.

Recently, it produced a 50,000-cubic metre centrifugal ventillator, 40,000-cubic metre centrifugal compressor and 80 other machines for the Sariwon Potassic Fertilizer complex which will annually deal with several million tons of potassic feldspars.

It has in recent years manufactured a 70-metre gantry planing machine capable of processing more than 10,000 tons of machines and a 10,000-ton press. Last year, it built more than 800 units of ordered equipment including a 120-metre compounding tank and a 200,000-cubic metre blower.

It began supplying sets of plants since the 1960s. Over the past 30 years it has produced ordered equipment enough to build hundreds of large-scale factories.

The Taean Heavy Machine Complex produces large-size electric power facilities.

At present, it is manufacturing 50,000-kw low-voltage thermal turbine and generators intended for the thermal power stations which are under construction in various places.

It has mass-produced large electric equipment such as 200,000-kva transformers and 50,000-kva generators.

Most of the generators operating at many hydraulic and thermal power stations in the country have been supplied by the complex.

The Nakwon Machine Complex manufactures 6,000-cubic metre oxygen plant and large pumping facilities and mining machines, while the Kim Chong-tae General Electric Locomotive Works produces 7,000-hp 8-axle electric locomotives and other types of locomotives.

The powerful heavy industry with the machine-building industry as its backbone powerfully guarantees a rapid development of the self-reliant national economy.

Agricultural Achievement in Sukchon County Noted

SK1305151891 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Pyongyang May 13 (KCNA)—This year is a significant year in which falls the 30th anniversary of the establishment of the new agricultural guidance system in Korea (December 1961).

The agricultural working people in Sukchon County, South Pyongan Province, are registering achievements in current farming with the determination to adorn this year with a high yield in agricultural production.

The great leader President Kim Il-song 30 years ago gave an on-the-spot guidance to the county and founded the County Cooperative Farm Management Committee, a special agricultural guiding body suited to the changed situation of the countryside. And he saw to it that state-run enterprises serving the rural economy and agrotechnicians were placed under the committee to administer the rural economy by an industrial method.

Since then, Cooperative Farm Management Committees were established in all cities and counties and Rural Economy Committees in the provinces and the Ministry of Agriculture was reorganized into the Agricultural Commission, thus giving birth to a new agricultural guidance system.

As a result the guidance system and method of the state for rural cooperative economy were improved into perfection and an epochal turn was made in accelerating the construction of the socialist countryside as a whole.

Agriculture in Sukchon County has rapidly developed after the industrial guidance to agricultural production was established.

As against 1961 the number of the tractors has grown 5.8 times and that of the trucks 24 times. The county has one thousand and several hundred rice-transplanting and plucking machines, thousands of tractor drivers and 1,800 engineers and assistant engineers.

Irrigation, electrification, mechanization and chemicalization of agriculture have risen to a high level.

In this course production of grain has grown 1.9 times, meat 2 times, eggs 41 times, vegetables 3.9 times, fruits 7.6 times and tobacco 6.7 times.

The looks of the countryside have completely changed and a fundamental change has taken place in the life of the agricultural working people.

The peasants in the county are leading a worthy life in the modern countryside where cosy single-storied houses and apartment houses stand in rows with sufficient service and cultural facilities.

KCNA Review of 15 May Pyongyang Press

SK1505054491 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0446 GMT 15 May 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang May 15 (KCNA)—Papers here today carry a full text of a solidarity message sent by President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, on the occasion of a "week of support to struggle of Palestinian people."

NODONG SINMUN reports that Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, received a message from Kaysone Phomvihan in reply to his message of greetings to him on his election as chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary party.

Congratulatory messages and letters came to the great leader President Kim Il-song from different countries and foreign publications published articles on his birthday, says the press.

NODONG SINMUN informs the readers that the Togo-Korea Friendship Association issued a bulletin to mark April 15.

The paper carries an article entitled "Highly Important Work Vigorously Inspiring Popular Masses to Heroic Feats" on the occasion of the third anniversary of the publication of "Let Us All Live and Struggle Like Heroes," a work of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Words of the South Korean people highly praising Comrade Kim Chong-il are echoed in the paper.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea (WPK) received a message from the Central Committee of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party (LPRP) in reply to its message of greetings to the 5th congress of the LPRP, says the paper.

A message of condolences to the state funeral committee for the late Ho Tam was sent by the central standing committee of the General Association of Korean Residents in Japan (Chongnyon), according to the press.

NODONG SINMUN editorially calls on all people to help countryside.

The press reports that geological prospectors are developing abundant underground resources on the occasion of May 15, the day of geological prospecting.

The DPRK amassador to Mali paid a farewell call on heads of state and government of Mali, says NODONG SINMUN.

Seen in the press is a message of greetings sent by Premier Yon Hyong-muk to Tesfaye Dinka upon his appointment as prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia.

Given in the press are reports that some members of the unified Korea soccer team visited various places of Pyongyang and that a Pyongyang rally was held to welcome young man Chi Yong-chun who defected to the northern half of the Republic.

South Korean news columns of the press include reports that some 150,000 people joined the funeral procession for student Kang Kyong-tae in Seoul on May 14, memorial services and demonstrations were held in local cities of South Korea and the authorities sentenced the participants in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks of Pan-Korean Alliance for National Reunification to imprisonment.

NODONG SINMUN runs an article entitled "The Land of South Korea Soaked in Blood Calls for Death-defying Resistance".

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities continued ground and aerial war exercises against the North, radio Moscow demanded of the United States a measure to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea and news media of South Korea reported about the U.S. deliberation on the dismantlement of its nuclear weapons from South Korea, according to the press.

Members of delegations of various countries which had participated in the 85th Interparliamentary Conference demanded that the concrete wall bisecting the Korean people into two be pulled down, says NODONG SINMUN.

Given in the press are articles on the occasion the "week of support to the struggle of Palestinian people" and an article introducing the achievement of the Cuban working people.

Foreign news columns of the press include reports that 626 local autonomous assemblies of Japan demanded early normalisation of diplomatic relations between Japan and the DPRK, a spokesman for the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade published a statement in protest against the wrong act of the U.S. Congress toward China-U.S. trade relations, the 11th meeting of the German Communist Party was held, Romania marked the 114th anniversary of its independence and 46th anniversary of victory over fascism and the Singapore paper NANYANG SIN CHEW made public an article entitled "Sincere Remorse of Japan Must Be Expressed in Practice" in connection with the utterances of Japan prime minister during his recent visit to Singapore.

NODONG SINMUN introduces cooperation among Asian countries in various domains.

It runs an article titled "Daily Increasing Danger of War on the Korean Peninsula".

South Korea

Inter-Korean Trade Faces International Red Tape

SK1005020291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0123 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (OANA-YONHAP)—A direct swap of goods by companies in South and North Korea has not gotten very far since a contract was signed four months ago, and is in danger of being strangled to death by red tape.

Yu Sang-yul, chairman of the Chonji Trading Co., the South Korean partner in the barter deal, said Thursday the date of the first shipment was delayed indefinitely after North Korea demanded he provide a timetable for shipment of the entire 100,000 tons of rice contained in the contract.

Yu said he was unable to comply because of the international procedures involved in rice shipment.

Chonji and Kumgangsan International Trade and Development Corp. signed the first set of contracts Jan. 26, agreeing to swap 100,000 tons of South Korean rice for North Korean coal and cement .

They subsequently agreed to divide the shipments and to exchange 5,000 tons of rice for 30,000 tons of anthracite and 11,000 tons of cement by May 7.

Yu met in Beijing with Kumgangsan President Pak Kyong-yun on May 5, at which time Pak asked for the delivery schedule for the entire 100,000 tons, Yu said.

The first shipment was delayed by this request, he said.

"We expect procedural difficulties in arranging delivery of the entire 100,000 tons since negotiations have not been completed with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization," Yu said.

FAO regulations state that any export, grant or loan of rice in excess of 1,000 tons requires negotiation with major rice exporters.

A South Korean Government official, requesting anonymity, said earlier that the United States complained about the South-North Korean deal through unofficial channels.

American cereal growers are reportedly lobbying Washington, saying the Korean deal will undermine their market share abroad.

Yu said he will meet with Pak again before May 20 after further negotiations with the government.

* North Korean Social, Cultural Life Described

912C0157A Seoul PUKHAN PYONLAM in Korean Jan 91 pp 43-100

[Excerpts] [passage omitted]

3. Social Mobilization and Control System

From the early days of its inception, the North Korean communist regime worked out and implemented various devices of social mobilization and control designed to throw the North Korean inhabitants "into the socialist revolution and socialist construction." The following are some of the major institutional devices and means of social mobilization and control which North Korea implemented in the past and is still implementing.

Socialist Competition Drive "Socialist competition is a drive to propel overall socialist development through competition to overtake each other and through the encouragement in the work of other participants" ("Economic Dictionary," 2, p 48). It is the most important psychologically motivated labor mobilization method adopted under the socialist system where labor cannot be mobilized through an offering of material motivations. This kind of socialist emulation drive in North Korea debuted initially in the form of a patriotic movement immediately after liberation. Beginning in 1957, it developed into the "chollima movement," "the movement to scale six heights," and the "movement to accomplish the 10 major tasks." Subsequently, the emulation drive intensified daily as it took the form of the "speed battle" in 1974, and beginning in 1975, its form changed to the "movement to win the red flag of three revolutions" to "the three-revolutions teams [TRT] movement."

In addition, there are other means of spurring work enthusiasm, such as the "70-day battle," the "60-day battle," and the "100-day battle."

In North Korea, "exemplary workers" who rendered distinguished services in these emulation drives are selected to be honored with medals and titles such as "labor heroes," "meritorious miners," "meritorious fishermen," and so forth. The recipients of these titles are given various economic and social benefits. By idolizing them, North Korea has been waging in a big way the "movement to learn from unsung heroes."

Political Study and Criticism Article 33 of the Socialist Labor Law provides that "the principle of working for 8 hours, resting for 8 hours, and studying for 8 hours shall be thoroughly implemented in organizing the labor aspect of life." This express provision indicates that all North Korean inhabitants are duty bound to participate in various political study sessions organized by their workplaces or organizations. (For the hours and contents of study, see Book 2.) Through these study sessions, all North Korean inhabitants are not only "indoctrinated" in political and ideological terms but also subjected through various "summation hours" to public accusation and criticism for their individual mistakes or any acts deviating from the norms in their collectives.

Control of Life Controls clamped on the North Korean populace are roughly classified into three categories: control over daily life, economic control, and control through organizations.

These are the means of controlling daily life: 1) guidance in and surveillance on family life through the five-household unit system (remained in force from 1958 through 1973) and the people's neighborhood unit system (in force since 1974); 2) restrictions on change of residence and on travel; 3) restrictions on people's choice of jobs and state assignment of specific workplaces to individuals operate as powerful means of controlling the daily lives of the inhabitants.

Economic controls are exercised by controlling people's food, clothing, and shelter, the basic needs of human life, through distribution of staple and subsidiary foods (in North Korea, distribution is called "supply"), distribution of clothing, and allocation of housing.

Control through organizations refers to the system by which all inhabitants are required to belong to various groups and organizations and go through organizational life. As a result, the social consciousness and behavior of the individual are controlled by the objectives of their groups and through organizational discipline, in accordance with the "principle of collectivism." In North Korea "organizational life" is regarded as "the anvil for ideological steeling and the school for revolutionary indoctrination" ("The Theses on Socialist Education"); and for this particular reason, great importance is attached to the role of various social groups and mass organizations not only as political indoctrinators but also as an instrumentality for mass mobilization and mass control.

Everyone born in North Korea must join one or more political organizations, and be willy-nilly subject to controls within these organizations, from the age of six through retirement.

As a matter of fact, children from 6 to 13 years of age must join the "Korean Pioneers"; youths ranging from 14 to 17 years of age (until 30 years of age in the case of collegians) must join the "League of Socialist Working Youths"; and those females ranging from 18 to 55 years of age who do not work and do not belong to the "General Federation of Trade Unions" (GFTUK) or the "Agricultural Workers Union (AWU)," are required to join the "Korean Democratic Women's Union." All adults must belong either to GFTUK or AWU according to their occupations.

Control Over Information In North Korea, the state monopolizes the flow of information or controls the public media in order to minimize the flow of foreign information and the dissemination of ideologies harmful to the revolution.

For this reason, North Korean TV sets and radios can operate only on fixed channels or frequencies; and newspapers, magazines, and other printed media report nothing but government-furnished news. In addition, anyone planning to travel from one area to another or make a trip abroad needs to obtain prior approval from the authorities; and contacts with visitors are also regulated. Since 1988, North Korea has begun to open its doors to foreign tourists, but their visits to localities other than preapproved areas is strictly controlled.

4. Educational System

Goals of Education In North Korea, education is regarded as a means of training personnel necessary to build "the communist society." Accordingly, it is set forth as the first and foremost goal of education to bring up people as "new, chuche-oriented communist-type human beings." In this regard, Article 39 of the socialist constitution provides that "the state, by following the pedagogic principles, brings up the new generation as staunch revolutionaries, new communist-type human beings, gifted with knowledge, virtue, and physical strength, who fight for the society and the people." [passage omitted]

5. Social Welfare System

Generally, under a socialist system like the one in North Korea under which private ownership is prohibited, the problem of social security to ensure the welfare of the inhabitants is bound to fall within the realm of state responsibility. In North Korea, the state responsibility for social welfare is defined as follows: "The state holds it as the paramount principle governing its activity to guarantee the workers their livelihood in a responsible manner and constantly improve their material and cultural standards of living." (Article 23 of the socialist constitution, and Article 68 of the Socialist Labor Law). It is also stipulated that social welfare is provided in the form of additional state benefits other than recompense for work performed.

In its early stage and period immediately following the establishment of the regime and continuing through the postwar rehabilitation period, the North Korean social welfare policy was implemented for the propaganda purpose of implanting in the minds of the workers the belief that the new socialist system was superior to the former Japanese rule or the capitalism in South Korea. But, we may say that in the 1950's and thereafter (the period of socialist economic construction), North Korea used social welfare measures as a means of control designed to mobilize the inhabitants in economic construction.

The North Korean welfare measures, which have been implemented from this policy viewpoint, currently take these forms: the 11-year free compulsory education system, the free medical care system, retirement pay, social insurance, livelihood assistance, disaster relief, public condolence money, and other social welfare type benefits.

The funds necessary for various social security measures come from: (1) contributions from various enterprises and social organizations (5 to 12 percent of the total wages of the workers and office employees), (2) individual contributions from workers and office employees (1 percent of their monthly salary), (3) necessary administrative costs borne by the state and local administrative organs.

Free Medicare The so-called "comprehensive free medicare" which North Korea brags about was first adopted by the Seventh Session of the Second Supreme People's Assembly (SPA) (27 February 1960). Through its propaganda machine, North Korea has been claiming that under the medicare system, its inhabitants are entitled to receive medical treatment free of charge, without having to pay a single penny for any treatment, including surgical operations, hospitalization and recuperation, medical checkups, preventive inoculations, child delivery, remedial aid used by the handicapped, and dental prosthesis. ("Korean Central Almanac," 1982, p

245) However, all inhabitants have 1 percent of their wages set aside each month as a contribution to "the social security fund."

Various Annuities The annuity system went into effect with the passage of the Socialist Labor Law (18 April 1978). The types of annuity are: the annuity for the disabled (three classifications, payment ranging 35 to 90 percent), the annuity for bereaved families (differentiated by the number of dependents), the annuity for retirees (retirement age is 60 for men, 55 for women), and the annuity for disabled veterans.

Insurance There are two kinds of insurance—workmen's industrial accident compensation insurance and unemployment insurance. Workmen's industrial accident compensation insurance, under which workers sustaining injuries from industrial accidents receive compensation, is classified into five categories on the basis of the initial wages of workers; and the premiums range from the maximum 75 percent of the wages (Class 1) and to the minimum 50 percent (Class 5).

The unemployment insurance benefit is paid when one has been out of work for 1 month or more despite his willingness and ability to work, or when one is in extreme poverty with no one to support him. Such a person is entitled to receive 20 percent of the standard wages, for not more than 6 months.

Public Assistance Public assistance, designed to provide livelihood protection for special categories, is roughly divided into three types: livelihood support, disaster relief, and general relief. Livelihood support, the most important of the three categories, consists of: 1) livelihood support for those who rendered meritorious services to the state; 2) livelihood support for the dependents of people's army officers and enlisted men (supplementary living allowance and reduction of levy on agricultural land, job placement, free medicare, priority ration, allocation of housing, tax exemptions); 3) livelihood protection for discharged veterans; 4) livelihood protection for returnees from Japan and defectors from South Korea. [passage omitted]

VI. Religion

1. Current State of Religion

Karl Marx once said "religion is opium, or a painkiller, for the suffering masses," showing his hostile attitude toward religion. This religious view held by communists is accepted in its entirety by North Korea, and Kim Il-song early on taught as follows: "Religion is a kind of superstition. Having faith in Jesus Christ or believing in Buddhism is in essence the same as believing in superstition. Historically, religion was used as a tool of deception for exploiting and oppressing people in the grip of the ruling class; and more recently, it was used by the imperialists as an ideological tool of aggression against backward countries." ("Kim Il-song's Selected Works," Vol I, 1967, p 173)

In addition, Article 54 of the North Korean socialist constitution provides that "citizens have freedom of religion and freedom of anti-religious propaganda," thus providing for freedom of religion and freedom of anti-religious propaganda at the same time.

In line with this view of religion, North Korea early on strongly pursued an anti-religion policy as part of the revolutionary measures designed to "build a socialist society." As a result, by 1955 or thereabout all religious organizations and religious consciousness had vanished or gone underground in North Korea.

However, entering the 1980's, North Korea began to show "family chapels" to foreign visitors, and in the mid-1980's they began to build churches by asking for help from the World Council of Churches (WCC) and the Vatican, or otherwise implementing an appeasement policy.

Beginning in 1988, North Korea began to permit public religious services at government-approved religious facilities such as churches, chapels, and temples, and these services were conducted according to officially sanctioned peculiar rituals. Nevertheless, it is hard to say that religion has been popularized completely in North Korea.

Religious Sects The following is the real state of religion in North Korea as publicized by its authorities to foreigners and Koreans abroad.

Christianity: At present, Christians total approximately 10,000. New and Old Testaments were published in October 1983, and there are only two formal churches, namely, Pongsu Church in Pyongyang built in 1988 and Chilgol Church currently under construction.

Reportedly, clergymen and elders number appropriately 150. Believers are said to attend services at about 500 family chapels scattered around the country. About 20 clergymen conduct church services, and most of them are said to be old preachers who were ordained before liberation.

Catholics: According to North Korean propaganda, there are about 800 Catholics throughout North Korea. Changchung Cathedral was built in Pyongyang in October 1988. Approximately 100 believers, half of them men and half of them women, most of whom range in age from 40 to 50, attend weekly Sunday services in this cathedral.

Buddhism: According to tourist guides, there are about 10,000 Buddhists throughout North Korea, and over 300 monks are assigned to more than 30 temples. The first Buddhist mass since the inauguration of the regime was held at Pohyon Temple on Mt Myohyang in May 1988. The Korean Buddhist Federation joined the World Federation of Buddhists (WFB) in 1986.

Chondoism: Reportedly, there are about 15,000 Chondoists, and beginning in 1986 the Heaven Day service, one of the Chondoist memorial day services, was observed.

Religious Organizations Currently, there are four active religious organizations, namely, the Korean Christian Federation (founded on 28 November 1946; present chairman, Chong Sin-hyok); the Korean Buddhist Federation (founded on 16 December 1945; present chairman, Pak Tae-ho); the Chondoist Central Guidance Committee (organized on 1 February 1945; present chairman, Chong Sin-kyok); the Korean Association of Catholics (founded on 30 June 1986; present chairman, Chang Chae-chol). One of the characteristics of these organizations is that they have their central mechanism but no lower level structure.

All these organizations are members of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland, a front organization of the WPK, and they place emphasis on propaganda activities directed toward the religious community in South Korea, such as issuing statements in support of WPK policy, and engaging in activities aimed at promoting solidarity with international religious organizations. [passage omitted]

I. Family System and Customary Ceremonies

1. Family System

Shift in Family System No sooner had the communist regime been founded in North Korea than the regime regarded the traditional family system handed down from generation to generation as a hot-bed for preserving the old ideas and way of life, and since then it has strived as a matter of policy to do away with the traditional family system, and on this basis, to build the so-called Red family system, from the point of view that the outdated ideas and conventions need to be done away with and that the home should be revolutionized ahead of all others, in order to build a socialist society.

As the first institutional step in "socializing" the family system, North Korea abolished the family register system on the grounds that it was a feudal system symbolizing blood ties and clans, and replaced it (in 1946) by the citizenship certificate system, a system of registering one's security status. Under the new system, each family member 18 years of age and above was granted legal status as an independent entity separate from the family unit, and blood relations up to a second cousin were recognized as relatives.

Particularly, the elimination of the estate inheritance system pursuant to the policy of socialized ownership brought about a radical change in the traditional family system. The measures to nationalize private property—such as the land reform program introduced in 1946, the cooperativization of agriculture, and the nationalization of major industries—eliminated the material foundation of the family system; and the dispersal of clan members to different localities led to the collapse of the traditional kinship.

In addition, with the enactment (in 1976) and enforcement of the "Child Care and Education Law," all children were admitted to kindergartens or nurseries, where they were cared for and educated under state supervision. As a result, the traditional patriarchal kinship with the parents at the center came to be destroyed.

Family Size For lack of accurate data, it is difficult to determine the average family size in North Korea. But, presumably, the trend toward a two-generation family is gradually taking hold. As late as 1960 North Korea implemented measures to encourage child bearing and increase the population by going so far as to confer the hero's title on prolific mothers, in an attempt to cope with the labor shortage. However, birth control began to be enforced since 1970. As a result, the size of the average family is believed to be between four and five.

Family Life According to the communist sense of value as inculcated in the minds of the North Korean inhabitants, unbounded affection among the family members and a sense of kindred bondage have been rejected as a piece of capitalist legacy and as a feudalistic way of thinking, respectively. Nevertheless, in reality, it is said that the close emotional ties between family members remain intact, and their sense of belonging to the home remains strong.

In addition, in the North Korean society, opportunities for women's participation in labor have increased due to the so-called "women's liberation movement," but the advantageous position of men over women remains intact.

Judging from the still existing old traditions of family life in North Korea, such as parents' preference for sons, the traditional ancestor worship, and the custom of exchanging visits between relatives, it is presumed that a considerable part of the traditional family system remains intact, despite the formal and institutional shock the North Korean regime's so-called "policy of revolutionizing the home" has given this system.

2. Customary Ceremonies

(1) Marriage

Marriageable Age In the Sexual Equality Law promulgated in 1946, North Korea set the age of 18 for males and 17 for females as the nubile age. In reality, however, until the end of the 1970's, marriage was possible when singles reached between 20 and 30 years of age. Recently, with the easing of various restrictions on the marriageable age, it has become customary for women to get married when they become 23 or 24 years old, and for men to marry when they reach the age of 27 or 28.

Selection of Spouse What is regarded as most important in selecting one's spouse is his or her social background. For ordinary workers who are not ranking party officials, whether the prospective bride or bridegroom is a party member or not is an important issue. Generally, former vigilantes during the Korean war, religious believers, former landlords, and dependents of defectors to the South are all avoided as prospective spouses.

Party members enjoy relatively high popularity, and generally, high-ranking party officials, professionals, and military men are most preferred. But recently, pilots, locomotive engineers, train crew members, drivers, cooks, and urban bachelors (particularly Pyongyang citizens) are welcome. Particularly, those employees who work on jobs directly handling articles of daily use, such as workers in foreign trade and salesmen, are relatively popular.

As for the appearances of the likely brides and bridegrooms, a woman with a roundish face and double eyelids and a tall and strong man are preferred as a likely bride and groom. Generally, a person whose parents are both living has a relative advantage.

Wedding Customs When a man and a woman agree to marry, the wedding day is selected. The past custom of choosing a lucky day has almost vanished, and a holiday or a Sunday is selected instead.

There are no particular wedding halls as such, but it is customary to have a wedding ceremony at the bride's or bridegroom's home. Sometimes a restaurant, conference room, or kindergarten is used for the wedding.

The ceremonial procedures have been greatly simplified, but the formal exchange of nuptial vows, the engagement ceremony, the exchange of symbolic gifts between the bride and groom, the wedding ceremony, and the jovial practice of putting the bridegroom in a kangaroo court still persist.

Speaking of the attire for the wedding ceremony, the bridegroom wears a suit with a Kim Il-song insignia on the left front side of his coat and a flower on the right side. The bride is dressed in a pinkish traditional coat and skirt (chima jogori). Recently, in some cases the bride has worn a bridal veil over her coat and skirt. Generally, a party cadre, the head of his union or office, officiates as the master of ceremonies.

After the wedding, the guests partake of the food prepared by the bride's side, and there is also a drinking party. Wedding parties are said to be the merriest of all occasions.

For a honeymoon, Mt Kumgang, Mt Myohyang, Songdowon Beach, Chuul Hot Spring are preferred. There is no particular leave for the newly married, and if they want to go on a honeymoon they have to use part of their 14 days of annual leave. For this reason, few go off on a honeymoon. In most cases, the bride and bridegroom drive around the city in the passenger car provided by either of their offices and have pictures taken before the Kim Il-song statue as a substitute for a honeymoon.

Customarily, the guests attending the wedding contribute some money as a token of congratulations. In the offices of the bride and bridegroom, a form of pledge of contribution is circulated on which each employee writes the amount of contribution and puts down his or her name and the money is later deducted from the salary.

Some North Koreans point out that wedding celebrations tend to become more and more elaborate and congratulatory contributions tend to increase. (TONG-A ILBO, 16 October 1990)

Wedding Gifts Exchanged Between Bride, Groom According to the economic situations of both families and the localities in which they live, there are differences in essential articles procured for and the value of gifts exchanged between the bride and bridegroom. Furniture and other household goods are purchased by the newlyweds, and in some cases their offices foot a portion of the bills for these items. The bride's side is supposed to procure cooking pots, tableware, chests of drawers, kitchenware and bedclothes.

The family on the bridegroom's side sends a clothes chest to the other family, but two sets of dress and some cosmetics for the bride are about all that is contained in the chest. The gift for the bridegroom from the bride is also simple, usually consisting of a suit and a fountain pen. In addition, the bride gives the bridegroom's side a dress and suit for his parents and material for clothes for his uncles and aunts and sisters. If the bride's family is well off, it may give a pair of socks as a gift to each of the other relatives on the bridegroom's side.

In North Korea, there is a code specifying articles used in coming of age ceremonies, weddings, funeral services, and ancestral memorial services; and people buy these articles according to the set specifications and at their own expense. (Footnote: There are so-called "wedding counters," stores specializing in articles used in weddings, throughout North Korea, one in each city or county. They sell cotton, bedclothes, suits, and so forth to brides and bridegrooms only. But these stores are used very little because of the cumbersome formalities.)

Divorce Procedure In the early days of the regime, divorce by agreement was possible. But a cabinet decision was adopted on 8 March 1956 abolishing the system of divorce by agreement and only allowing a divorce by trial. Accordingly, one can get a divorce only by suing for a divorce and obtaining a court judgment in favor of it.

Generally, when the husband wants a divorce, it is hard to get a divorce, whereas it is relatively easier for the wife to get a divorce. The divorcee can demand alimony, but in case the husband has no cash to pay the alimony, he surrenders to his wife the furniture and all other household goods formerly used by the couple. In case the divorced wife is to take care of the children by agreement reached at the time of divorce, the husband has to pay the expenses for child care until the children finish senior high school.

In most cases, there are relatively few divorce cases filed by women, and women have disadvantages when they file a petition for a divorce. There are hurdles imposed by the government to discourage divorce, for instance, a costly revenue stamp required for a divorce application (50 won for each spouse).

(2) 60th Birthday

From the signing of the armistice until the end of the 1950's, birthday celebrations, including the first and the 60th birthday, and other similar celebrations were banned because of the difficult economic situation. But beginning in 1960's, the authorities tacitly approved these celebrations. When occasionally a 60th birthday celebration takes place, each guest contributes foodstuffs or 2 or 3 won in cash as congratulatory money, and the office where the host is employed also collects contributions for the occasion.

There is no specially prepared table for the host, but part of the food prepared for the guests is spread out on the table for the host, and his family members go through the ritual of offering him a cup of wine and bowing to him in order of age. The food for the guests consists of corn noodles, fried pollack, seasoned ferns, seasoned shredded radishes, seasoned carrots, rice cakes, rice wine, and so forth.

(3)Funerals

The funeral procedure has been simplified, and the deceased is buried on the third day after death, or in some cases, on the same day or on the second day after death.

No particular funeral clothing is prepared, but a black band is worn on the sleeve as a symbol of mourning. For the means of carrying the coffin, a truck or ox-cart is used in place of the traditional funeral bier. Mostly, in large cities the deceased are buried in public cemeteries. But in small towns and the countryside, they are buried in any convenient place. Normally, the period of mourning lasts for 1 year, but in some cases, it lasts 3 years.

Recently, with the ever-increasing need for burial space, North Korea tried to encourage cremation, but the policy met with strong opposition from the inhabitants and there have been no cremations.

When a lineal ascendant dies, the principal mourner is given a 3-day official leave in addition to 10 won in cash and 1 mal [about 18 liters] of rice as part of the funeral cost. In some cases, the office supplies a truck to carry the coffin.

(4)Ancestral Memorial Services

In North Korea, not only traditional ancestral memorial services are regarded as a superstition but also ancestral worship is branded as a reactionary malady and a feudal remnant. For this reason, no traditional ancestral memorial services are performed in public. However, a memorial service is conducted at home each year until the morning period ends, and when there is an aged person in the family, ancestral services are continually held every year. No particular sacrificial table is prepared according to the traditional Confucian ritual standard. But, normally, the food laid out on the table consists of chestnuts, rice cakes, pan-fried fish and meat, fresh fish, fruit, seasoned vegetables, and other items easily available in the neighborhood.

II. Daily Life

The problem of food, clothing, and shelter is basic to social life for everyone. In a country like North Korea under the socialist system, the state is in direct charge and control of the conditions and means of supply for food, clothing, and shelter, and this makes it easier to mobilize its citizens in attaining the state's policy goals and to effectively control deviations from the social norms.

From liberation until now, the North Korean regime has subordinated the demand of the inhabitants for better food, clothing, and shelter to the policy goals for the "building of the socialist society" and for the consummation of the "South Korean revolution." Thus, by limiting this demand to a minimum, the regime has been able to pursue a heavy industry development policy centering on the munitions industry.

However, entering the 1980's, faced with the growing dissatisfaction on the part of the inhabitants over the conditions of life as consumers, North Korea began to pay more policy-oriented attention to improving the overall levels of food, clothing, and shelter through diverse steps, such as increased production in the light industry sector, and the "3 August consumer goods" drive. Despite this effort, however, there has been little tangible improvement so far. Of food, clothing, and shelter, people are said to find the food problem most difficult. (As surmised from the slogan "rice is communism" and from the shift in the order of the three elements from "clothing, food and shelter" to "food, clothing, and shelter," solving the food problem remains the first priority task in North Korea.)

1. Clothing

Sartorial Style Beginning in the 1980's, the North Korean authorities began to show great interest in the clothes people wear by saying that "inasmuch as the clothes people wear are symbolic of their personalities and their levels of culture, they should dress in such a manner as to suit the demands of the socialist way of life; and to this end, the sartorial style should be diversified so that the contemporary aesthetic sense may suit the age, physique, and taste of each individual." ("Korean Women," No 9, 1980)

Particularly, spurred by Kim Chong-il's remarks on clothing which were made on the occasion of the 1985 exchange of visits by family members separated between North and South, there was a conspicuous trend toward diversified, colorful dress styles. More recently, garment exhibitions, ready-made clothes exhibitions, and dress fairs have been held. North Korea imports dress material from Japan and other countries and make clothes with it for export, and this is having the effect of increasingly diversifying the styles, colors, and patterns of the attire of the North Koreans. This trend of diversification has become more conspicuous in street wear than in daily wear.

In the case of women's attire, there has been a trend to prefer relatively brighter colors such as burgundy and pink to dark colors such as navy blue and green. There is also a conspicuous trend among some women to wear clothes exposing part of the body. In men's clothing, there is a trend toward diversification and refinement, as they increasingly wear coats and ties and, even jumpers in some cases.

Purchase of Clothing In North Korea, there are distinctions in the supply of clothing according to the status of purchasers. Clothing supply is divided into two channels, namely, the "central supply channel" and the "general supply channel."

People who come under the central supply channel get a ready-made suit or material for a suit once every 2 to 4 years at a low price (50 percent), according to the grade of the purchaser. There is a gradation in the quality of the clothing, ranging from the highest quality wool supplied to the privileged class to blended wool and flax in that order. There is a special clothes distribution system for artists, journalists, teachers, and other professionals. Party and State Administration Council cadres are entitled to a special supply of suits, and reporters covering Panmunjom get the same treatment as cabinet ministers as far as the supply of clothes is concerned.

People who come under the general supply channel receive a distribution of fabrics such as cotton, poplin, and other cloth made of staple fiber about once a year, and these items belong to the category of goods supplied "for use by workers and office employees." In addition, workers get one or two sets of overalls free of charge each year, whereas office employees and farmers and their dependents get a ration card through their neighborhood office to purchase clothing.

Fur hats, cotton gloves, stockings, woolen fabrics, and shirts, etc are non-rationed items, and individuals buy these articles at their own expense.

2. Diet

Food Distribution With the proclamation of Cabinet Decisions 96 and 102 "On bringing food sales under unitary state-controlled system" in 1957, the free sale of food was abolished and converted to a total food distribution system for workers and office employees. (In North Korea, the word "distribution" is used for ration.)

There are distinctions in the food rationing system according to the job positions of the recipients and the localities in which they live. The amount of the ration is differentiated according to age and the degree of labor.

Ranking cadres in the party, government, and military draw 700 grams (of polished rice) per person; and workers, office employees, students in various grades, and soldiers draw 600 to 700 grams of a mixture of rice and non-rice cereals per person. The ratio of cereals to rice is 7:3. In the countryside, the ratio of cereals to rice is as high as 8:2 or 9:1.

The variety of food distributed includes corn rice (corn flour mixed with wheat and other flour and processed to look just like rice), potatoes, and wheat flour. As for the rationing procedure, one obtains a food ration card issued by his office once every 15 days, and with this ration card, he gets only a 13-day ration at the village or street distribution center, which deducts the 2-day portion as a "reserve for war." However, in reality, an additional 10 percent or so is deducted from the 13-day ration in the name of conservation. (Recently, the reserve for war has ceased to be taken aside from the 15-day ration as a result of strong opposition on the part of the inhabitants.)

Each workplace distributes food ration tickets to the homes of its employees, and each family takes the ration tickets to the designated food distribution center along with the food ration card and the money to buy the food. When the ration is drawn, the distribution center enters the quantity of food sold on the ration card.

Farmers, on the other hand, do not draw a food ration, but receive an allocation of the whole year's food supply in kind which is computed by using the same distribution standard for urban workers, at a year-end account settlement and income distribution in their respective cooperative farms.

Food Coupon System A food coupon, which entitles the holder to a certain amount of food, may be regarded as a form of securities. An application for food coupons needs to be filed in advance, according to the kind of coupons one needs. When one uses a coupon at a restaurant, he must produce his coupon and pay for the food he orders.

There are two kinds of food coupons, one for use in travel and the other for family use. One uses a coupon for travel when he dines at a restaurant and stays in a hotel during his trip. When a traveler wants to buy a boxed lunch on the train, he has to produce his food coupon along with a "railway meal ticket." On the other hand, food coupons for family use are used in buying noodles, wheat flour, bread, etc. at a food distribution center or a grocery store. In large cities like Pyongyang, a food coupon is exchanged for ramen. When one gets a food coupon, an equivalent amount of rice is deducted from his next rice ration.

Purchase of Subsidiary Foods When one wants to purchase soy sauce, soybean paste, hot bean paste, and peppered soy paste, he needs to obtain a coupon. But, main subsidiary food items such as kimchi, bean sprouts, tofu, and vegetables can be bought at stores without a coupon. In the fall pickle-making season, each household gets through the neighborhood organization an average supply of 70 to 80 kilograms of radishes, cabbage, and other materials for pickling.

Collective Cooking System To facilitate the use of female labor, North Korea is operating a system whereby each apartment complex or factory prepares side dishes as well as main dishes and supplies them to each household. A "cooked rice factory" is typical of this system.

About three or four rice factories are in operation in major cities such as Pyongyang, Kaesong, Chongjin, Nampo, and Hamhung on an industrial scale. These factories supply semi-finished side dishes and soup materials in addition to main dishes. Working couples are the main customers of these factories.

However, people tend to avoid purchasing food supplied by meal factories whenever possible because the food is poor in quality and small in quantity. Recently, these factories began to produce and sell bread, rice cakes, and ice cream in addition to cooked rice, and are trying hard to attract more customers by, for instance, operating mobile cafeterias.

Special Distribution for Red-Letter Days On the national holidays such as Kim Il-song's birthday (15 April), Kim Chong-il's birthday (16 February), the WPK founding anniversary (10 October), and Labor Day (1 May), as well as on New Year's Day and other festive occasions, each household gets a special supply of 1 to 2 kilograms of pork and 2 to 3 kilograms of fish, plus sugar, wine, and cigarettes, at its own expense. But, the items and quantity of this special supply vary according to the status of the recipient, the time of distribution, and the availability of the goods.

3. Housing Conditions

Housing Supply In North Korea no one can own or build a house because all houses are owned by the state. Therefore, various classes of single houses or apartment units are allocated to individuals by the state in the form of lease, according to the status or position of the tenant.

Because of the housing allocation system, people's residences are limited to specific areas, making it practically impossible to change residence from one place to another freely.

Dwelling houses range from the special category reserved for high-ranking cadres at the vice ministerial or higher level to Category-4 units allocated to workers and cooperative farmers at the bottom.

Structure of Houses Beginning in the 1970's, modern tall apartment complexes were built in major cities such as Pyongyang, Nampo, and Wonsan, and modern two-story (three units) and three-story (five units) homes were built in the countryside. Efforts have been made to diversify the types of housing while directing considerable attention to improving the appearance of the housing by giving it the look of modern cultured homes.

Standards of Housing Supply by Categories

Type (Unit)	Structure	Occupants
(Special Category)		
Single luxury homes	detached 1- or 2-story homes with yard, air-conditioning, flush toilet	vice ministerial or higher level party, govt officials
(Category 1)		
New-type high-rise apartments	20 to 30 pyong for each unit, 2 or 3 rooms per unit, with bathroom, flush toilet, hot and cold running water	bureau chief level officials of party and State Administration Council, people's actors or actresses, meritorious artists, college professors, heads of enterprises
(Category 2)		
Medium-class detached homes, new-type apartments	12 to 15 pyong per unit, 2 rooms, kitchen, common storage	guidance officers of central agencies, provincial-level deputy department chiefs and above, department chiefs of enterprises, school principals
(Category 3)		
Ordinary apartments	7 to 10 pyong per unit, 1 or 2 rooms, wooden-floor room, kitchen, common bath, toilet	provincial-level guidance officers, city- or county-level section chiefs, section chiefs of enterprises, school teachers, heads of chollima work teams
(Category 4)		
Public-operated collective housing	1 or 2 rooms, kitchen	ordinary workers, office employees
Rural modern housing	single, or 2 or 3 stories, or 5- to 7- story attached homes, 2 to 4 rooms, kitchen, storage space	cooperative farm members
Old homes	2 or 3 rooms	ordinary citizens, rural inhabitants

Nowadays tall 15-story apartments are rising in cities, and particularly in Pyongyang, 40-story high-rise apartments with central air-conditioning systems are under construction in Youth and Kwangbok Streets. In rural areas the construction of attached housing complexes ranging from two or three stories to five to seven stories is accelerating. Each unit has two to four rooms with a storage space, a wash room, a bathroom, and a toilet.

Rent The rent for a housing unit for vice ministerial level officials (Special Category) corresponds to 6 percent of the occupant's total household expenditure, whereas workers and office employees living in Category 4 housing spend approximately 3 percent of their household expenditures for the rent and utility bills.

Availability of Housing The rate of housing availability is said to be 57 percent for the average worker and 68 percent for top-echelon officials of enterprises. In Pyongyang and other major cities, the availability of housing is so limited that in many cases, a newly married couple have to live separate from each other. (Generally, it takes about 4 to 5 years after the application for a housing unit to become available.)

4. Purchase of Daily Necessities

In North Korea daily necessities are divided into two categories, rationed and non-rationed items, and they must be bought at designated stores using purchase cards. Accordingly, it is impossible to buy most daily necessities freely, and even with purchase cards, daily necessities cannot be bought in areas other than the area to which one's neighborhood unit belongs.

Grain bought with a "rice coupon" tops the list of food items the inhabitants buy. Next come major subsidiary foods, such as soybean paste, soy sauce, and edible oil. For families with students, a considerable amount of money is spent on books and school supplies.

Wholesale stores at all levels which play a key role in the supply of daily necessities buy goods from producers and sell them to retail stores. Wholesale stores sell goods to retail stores under a strict order system, and operate a number of warehouses to store goods ordered by retail stores. In addition, wholesale stores play the role of keeping tabs on the demand-supply situation by checking with the retailers and inhabitants, figuring out goods in demand, and furnishing various pertinent data to the producers or enterprises.

It is stipulated that wholesale prices be set by adding a certain amount of expenses necessary for management and operation to the average cost of an article as a profit [as published]. The actual purchase price a purchaser pays when he buys an article is the retail price which is computed by adding commercial surcharge (necessary expenses and profits of the store) to the wholesale price. "State-fixed retail prices," determined in this manner, are transmitted to retail stores established in each area, village, and street; and retail stores sell goods to general inhabitants at the prices listed in this notification after confirming the quantity specified in their purchase cards.

Retail stores may be classified into these categories: department stores in Pyongyang, general stores in rural towns, direct-sales stores, and stores in each village and street. These retail outlets supply daily necessities to the general inhabitants through mobile counters, delivery service, night sales, and shopping-by-order service, etc.

In Chongjin City's case, stores are divided into green groceries (handling vegetables), manufactured goods stores (handling manufactured goods), fishery products or fresh fish stores, and food stores. In buying special items such as TV sets, refrigerators, and watches, ordinary purchase cards are not used, but only people with a purchase allocation from their workplace can buy those specifically allocated items at the store. Goods that can be purchased freely without a purchase card are limited to tissue paper, clothespins, nail-cutters, and other cheap notions. One needs a purchase card to buy thread. Even with a purchase card, one cannot buy things at a store other than designated stores. There are a lot of complaints because not all goods are supplied at the time desired by the inhabitants. When one needs an article urgently, he has no choice but to buy it at a "market" at a higher price.

Prices of Major Daily Necessities

Item	Unit	Price	Black Market Price
(Foods & Daily Necessities)			
Rice	1 kg	8 chon	15 to 20 won
Cereal	1 kg	6 chon	10 to 15 won
Soy sauce	1 kg	18 chon	
Bean paste	1 kg	15 chon	
Egg	each	17 chon	2 to 3 won
Pork	1 kg	7 won	20 to 40 won
Beef	1 kg	7.50 won	35 to 40 won
Tofu	1 cake	12 chon	3 won
Toothpaste	tube	1.40 won	7 to 8 won
Toothbrush	each	1.20 won	
Stocking	pair	1 won	
Nylon socks	pair	1.50 won	5 won
Lotion	bottle	2 won	4 won
Sports shoes	pair	3.40 won	15 to 20 won
Suit	each	120 won	300 to 400 won
(Fancy Items)			
Beer	bottle	92 chon	
Soju [distilled spirits]	bottle	2.40 won	20 won
Snake wine	bottle	12 won	60 won
Cola	bottle	1.50 won	
Cider	bottle	1.20 won	5 won
Cigarettes (Pyongyang)	pack	1.80 won	20 won
Cold buckwheat noodles	1 serving	2 to 2.50 won/ 1.50 to 2 won	
(Manufactured Goods)			
Color TV	set	1,200 to 1,500 won	20,000 won
Black & white TV	set	400 to 600 won	4,000 won
Radio	set	100 won	750 won
Recorder	each	260 won	800 won
Camera	each	400 won	1,000 won
Film	Roll		17 to 18 won
Electric fan	each	80 won	
Sewing machine	each	375 won	
Washing machine	each	400 won	
Bicycle	each	400 won	4,000
Refrigerator	each	650 won	

Prices of Major Daily Necessities

Item	Unit	Price	Black Market Price
Fountain pen	each	8 won	
Kettle	each	10 won	
Fluorescent lamp	each	4 won	

III. Life at the Workplace

1. Job Assignment

Article 56 of the North Korean socialist constitution provides as follows: "All citizens blessed with labor power are assured of choice of their jobs according to their desires and abilities and of stable employment and working conditions. Each citizen works according to his or her ability and receives a share of distribution according to the quantity and quality of the work performed." This article clearly provides for freedom of choice in finding jobs, but in reality, individual wishes and talents are not fully reflected in job placement.

In the case of a high school or college graduate, he fills out the forms (personal history, biographical summary, security statement, job application, and security references) provided by the labor department of the city or county people's committee. He submits these forms to his school, and the school principal prepares a written opinion on the application and turns it over to the vice principal for political affairs, who turns over the whole file to the labor department (or section) of the city or county people's committee about 3 months before the graduation date. The labor department (or section) screens the papers and assign a job to the applicant.

In case of discharged servicemen, the labor department (or section) of the provincial, municipal, or county people's committees in the areas they live in keep tabs on their family backgrounds and military service records and selects those who are fit as party guidance workers, office employees, necessary industrial personnel, and cadre training personnel and assigns them to these jobs on a priority basis, with the remainder assigned in groups to workplaces which are short of personnel.

2. Daily Routine at the Workplace

Life at a workplace normally begins with reporting to work at 0800 in the morning. The morning schedule is completed by noon. Each 50-minute work period is followed by a 10-minute rest. Lunch time is rather long, ranging between 1 hour 30 minutes to 2 hours. After having a home-made lunch, workers usually take a nap for the remainder of the lunch break. There is no specially arranged place for a nap, and they usually nap on benches and tables in a conference room or in a night-guard room.

The afternoon schedule also allows a 10-minute break after each 50-minute work period. The basic daily schedule ends at 1800. After the end of the daily schedule, there is a "work summation" meeting by each work team (or by each workshop), lasting for about 1 hour. (Note: "Summation means the process of analyzing and summing up the progress and results of a task or activity in politico-ideological and administrative terms to find experiences and lessons which will be useful in future tasks and life." ("Dictionary of Korean Cultural Terms," p 727) In every workplace, such as a factory or an enterprise, workers hold a daily "work summation" meeting after the completion of the daily work schedule to evaluate and reflect on the results of the day's work and pledge to work harder.) This meeting is followed by various other types of meetings or a "study session" before coming home. Usually, office employees leave their office at about 1900 and workers at about 2000.

Tardiness, taking leave in the middle of the shift, absenteeism, and unauthorized sick leave are strictly controlled. For whatever reasons, all such instances are criticized by the superiors. When one is late for work three times, it will be regarded as one whole day off, and he will lose the 1-day portion in the amount of his food ration computed by his office. When one absents himself from his office without leave, he will have the 1-day portion deducted from his food ration. As a matter of principle, one is not allowed to leave his office earlier than usual. When one has to leave early under unavoidable circumstances, leave will be granted on condition that he leave after completing his assignment. Sick leave is authorized only when the doctor's diagnosis is submitted.

After the day's work, everyone is required to attend a "study session" lasting 1 to 2 hours. Study sessions conducted at most of the factories, enterprises, and offices take various forms, such as the "study session of the Kimilsongism study group" (for central-level bureau chiefs and higher officials), the "study session of the party history study group" (for subsection chiefs and higher officials of the central government), a "party policy study session," a "memoirs study session," a "study session on Kim Il-song teachings and his abridged biography," a "study session on Kim Chong-il's virtues," a "newspaper reading session," and a "current affair discussion session." There are also "party instructions study sessions" which are held as occasions arise.

In addition, almost daily all employees have to attend various meetings, such as a general meeting of the party or other organizations to which they belong, a committee meeting, an ideological discussion meeting (as occasions arise), a work team or sub-work team meeting. They also have to attend a special presentation of a drama or movie, various report meetings, and neighborhood meetings.

The daily life of the farmers (cooperative farm members) in the countryside varies somewhat according to the cooperative farms to which they belong, but their daily routine is almost the same.

North Korean farmers usually get up at dawn at the sound of the village bell or siren. As soon as they get up, they gather at the designated places, where they hold a morning meeting by each work team or sub-work team for 15 to 30 minutes.

As soon as the morning meeting is over, each returns home to pick up tools, and then goes out again to perform a pre-working hour extra task up to 0700, according to his work load. When the work at dawn is over, he returns home to have breakfast. After breakfast he reports to work at the cooperative farm by 0800. At this time, the work team leader gives work assignments to each sub-work team. The morning work continues until noon, with a 15-minute break at about 1000. The period from noon to 1500 is the lunch and rest period. At about 1900 when the afternoon schedule ends, a "work summation" begins, followed by an announcement of the labor man-days put in for the day by each farmer. After this announcement, each goes home. (Note: The labor man-days is the standard for measuring the magnitude of labor put in by each worker in producing a specific article or performing a specific task. It is used as one of the means to measure the magnitude of labor put in by workers. The size of the labor man-days is determined by the total amount of labor used in a specific task and the labor productivity of the workers performing the task. ("Economic Dictionary 1," p 606)

Cooperative farmers also have to attend a "political study" session or other meetings daily. The schedule and substance of these meetings are almost the same as those for urban workers. Instead of Sundays, farmers are given a day off once in every 10 days (the 1st, 11th, and 21st of the month), but this system is not fully enforced under the pretext of the pressing needs of farming.

3. Wages

Wages are determined by the "wage scale." There are two types of wages, "fixed wage" and "contract wage." The former is paid according to the number of hours put in without regard to the amount of work done, and the latter according to the pieces or amount of work done. In the case of cooperative farmers, they receive their wages in the form of a year-end share of distribution because the results of their labor are determined at the year-end settlement.

The following is the North Korean wage scale which has been recently made available.

Wage Scale

Division	Rank (Position)	Amount in North Korean won
Party, government	ministerial-level officials	300 to 350
	vice ministerial level officials, provincial people's committee chairmen	250 to 300
	provincial people's committee vice chairmen, county people's committee chairmen	170 to 200
Factories, enterprises	managers of special-class enterprises	250 to 300
	managers, branch managers of Class-1, Class-2 enterprises	150 to 200
Workers, office employees	miners, steel workers, smelters	90 to 100
	ordinary machinists, drivers	75 to 80
	ordinary workers	70-80
	office workers	60-70
Service workers	hotel, restaurant, barbershop, store employees	50 to 80

4. Leave and Rest and Recuperation

Under Article 14 of the Labor Law, all workers are entitled to 14 days of annual leave, and an additional 7 to 21 days' leave according to the types of occupation. In addition, model workers, technicians, and other meritorious workers who have overfulfilled their assignments, and tuberculosis and other patients requiring a long period of treatment and convalescence are authorized to take leave for rest and recuperation. The rest period is 14 days not including the days for traveling to and from the destination, whereas the period of recuperation ranges from 14 days to a month.

One can choose the date for his leave, and when he takes days off for a wedding or for other reasons, the number of days used are deducted from the total annual leave allowed. However, in many cases workers give up part of their leave because they have to take part in an "emulation drive" or a drive to implement Kim Il-song's instructions. When one does not use up his leave and works instead, he gets an additional 60 percent in wages for the extra days put in.

Customarily, women workers turn in a leave application to take days off during the fall pickling season and usually are allowed to take leave on the days they want. However, as for leave other than annual leave, one can absent himself from work under "special circumstances," but no wages are paid for the days he took off and his food ration is also reduced by as many days. In addition, women are given 77 days of maternity leave before and after childbirth.

'Serious Threat' of Foreign Manufacturers Viewed

SK1505095291 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean
14 May 91 p 5

[Article by reporter Yi Kyu-min from the column "Focal Point": "ROK Manufacturers Feel Pinched at the Prospect of Direct Korean Sales by Large U.S. Manufacturers"]

[Text] The movement by big foreign manufacturers to compete in the domestic distribution industry has begun to pose a serious threat to our businesses.

Announcing the opening of our country's market to foreign distributors, the government and the distribution industry only watched such distribution specialists as foreign department stores and chain stores which might try to make inroads into our country and failed to foresee the possibility of giant foreign manufacturers entering the competition.

However, with U.S. automaker Ford rumored to be studying the possibility of launching direct sales in Korea, and with the U.S. Department of Commerce reported to have informed our government of a list of items in which U.S. distributors are interested, it has become apparent that foreign manufacturers will participate in domestic distribution.

Naturally, the opening of our country's distribution market to foreign competition is the same as throwing the domestic manufacturers as a whole into a powerful maelstrom, going beyond the scope of the distributors.

Of course, each of our country's major industrial sectors has been importing items depending on necessity. Most of these major industrial goods have been identical to products they manufacture domestically. As a result, the local manufacturers have managed to keep a flood of foreign manufactured goods from devastating them all at once.

In other words, as these manufacturers have been importing and selling products identical to their own, with Kia Motors importing and selling Ford Sables and electric home appliance manufacturers importing for local sale large refrigerators manufactured abroad. They were criticized for doing so and, therefore, could not show too much enthusiasm. Also, because these imported goods were sold at a higher margin they worked to raise the price of the identical locally manufactured products. This in turn has kept the local importers from excessive sales of these goods.

Nevertheless, the situation will be quite different starting in July when foreign manufacturers begin selling their own products through their own outlets.

For example, when Japan's Sony opens its own outlet in the Yongsan electric market in Seoul and sells, at a discounted price, color TV sets larger than the 21-inch size that are not on the list of items that must be imported from countries other than Japan or when General Electric of the United States, begins selling refrigerators larger than the 900 liter class which are very popular among Korean consumers at a much cheaper price without having to pay middlemen, there is no question that the domestic manufacturers of the same goods will see their sales drop.

When U.S. car makers begin selling their own automobiles in Korea at much cheaper, policy-oriented prices and if the government drops the customs on imported automobiles by 15 percent in 1992 and 10 percent in 1994 according to a plan, it is anybody's guess as to how long our country's domestic manufacturers will remain competitive.

Moreover, if U.S. manufacturers employ such marketing strategies as cash back, where a buyer signs a contract and the seller returns a certain amount of cash to the consumer, or the system where the buyer makes interest-free installment payments over 60 months or more, which they do at home when they have funds available, the result will be great.

Of course there are positive aspects in opening up the distribution market.

The greatest advantage in opening up this market is that the domestic industries will be forced to improve their competitiveness and that domestic prices will be reduced. Because the distribution market has not been opened up yet, the domestic manufacturing industries have dominated the distribution networks of imports and sales. Therefore, this has produced bad side effects, and the opening of the market has not been able to produce positive results.

The problem is in how well the domestic industries, which enjoy relatively weaker competitive edges than big foreign corporations, will be able to endure the blows from opening up.

The government's policy so far has centered on protecting and promoting thsee industries.

If the distribution market is opened up, the government's protectionist wall will give way. Since it goes against fair trade principles espoused by the Uruguay Round, the government's policy of promoting these industries will stir up international public opinion, and as a result the government will not be able to carry out this policy.

It is difficult to accurately estimate how well foreign manufacturing industries will be able to make inroads into the domestic market when our distribution market opens up.

Also, it is difficult to estimate how much our industries will suffer from foreign manufacturing industries.

The government will have no alternative but to open up the domestic distribution market in July because it has externally promised to do so.

We can impose restrictions on the opening up of our distribution market after we have opened up our market.

Still, we can do so only after the domestic industries have suffered significantly from the opening up. This strategy will not work well because our restrictions may cause trade frictions.

The time has passed when the domestic industries enjoy the government's strong protectionist wall.

It is up to the people, who are consumers, and it is up to the businesses to decide on how well we can minimize the bad side effects from the opening up of the distribution market.

Team To Visit China Scouting Sites for Complex

SK1505020991 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 May 91 p 8

[Text] The government will start the construction of a Korean industrial complex in China next year.

The industrial estate will be built at one of three Chinese sites—Tianjin, Qingdao or Zhenhwangdao.

It will be the first Korean industrial complex set up overseas.

To realize the aim, the Korea Land Development Corporation (KLDC) and the International Private Economic Council of Korea (IPECK) will dispatch a joint mission to China tomorrow.

Staying in China until May 30, the mission will intensively study the feasibility of establishing an industrial estate.

In particular, they will visit the three Chinese sites and gather information for the project.

It will be the second mission to be sent to China by KLDC and IPECK following the first one dispatched last year.

Initially, five Chinese sites were selected as candidates for the establishment of a Korean industrial complex.

They are, besides the present candidates, Shanghai and Lingkuo.

As soon as the second mission returns home, KLDC will pick the site through consultations with the Trade-Industry Ministry and business concerns which aspire to advance into China.

KLDC said that the construction will kick off next year.

According to KLDC, the industrial complex will be built on a tract of 300,000 pyong (one pyong is equivalent to 3.3 square meters) to be leased by the Chinese government.

The establishment of an industrial estate in China is aimed at helping business concerns which are suffering from the aggravation of their international competitiveness due to high wages and manpower shortages.

If they locate in the projected industrial complex, they will be able to strengthen their international competitiveness utilizing cheap labor and abundant manpower in China.

KLDC said that some 100 enterprises have applied to advance into China.

USSR Agrees To Promote Technology Transfer

SK1405032191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0258 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 14 (YONHAP)—South Korea and the Soviet Union have agreed to promote the transfer of patented technologies and to exchange information on intellectual property rights.

According to a record of discussion signed Tuesday by Kim Chul-su, commissioner of the Korean Industrial Property Office (KIPO) and his Soviet counterpart Yuriy Bespalov, the Soviet Union named 767 technologies it was willing to transfer to Korea—311 related to information and telecommunications, 270 to chemicals and petrochemicals, 94 to applied technologies, 55 to machinery and 37 to light industry.

In the first meeting of the Korean-Soviet industrial property experts held at KIPO, Kim and Bespalov, chairman of the state patent agency, agreed that a government-private team will visit Moscow to get further information on readily transferable technology and on the terms and procedures of introduction in the latter half of the year.

It was agreed that KIPO and the Soviet patent agency will set up exchange programs for training in patents. Instructors, trainees and educational programs will be swapped by KIPO's International Intellectual Property Training Institute and the Soviet All-Union Training Institute of Industrial Property.

The two sides also agreed to cooperate closely for the events to be arranged by the world intellectual property organization.

The second experts meeting will be held in May next year in Moscow.

With Soviet presentation of the list, Korean businesses will seek commercialization of the technologies. The Soviet Union has long wanted to commercialize them, but failed to find partners who could provide manufacturing technology and capital, Korean officials said.

Red Cross To Invite Soviet Koreans to Seoul

SK1505090191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0840 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 15 (YONHAP)—The South Korean National Red Cross will invite 83 ethnic Koreans from Khabarovsk, a city in the Soviet Far East, to visit Seoul from July 19 to Aug. 13, a Red Cross official said Wednesday.

They will be the first Koreans from the Soviet mainland to visit Seoul at the invitation of the Red Cross. Most of the cost of the chartered plane will be covered by the Japanese Red Cross Society, he said.

The two groups began to arrange trips for Koreans on Sakhalin Island in 1989 and so far 1,737 have made the trip to Seoul.

There are 15,000 Koreans in the Soviet Far East, except for Sakhalin. Most were taken to the Soviet island for labor during World War II and moved to the mainland after the war ended.

More on Visit of Turkish Prime Minister Akbulut

TA1405191991 Ankara TRT Television Network in Turkish 1700 GMT 14 May 91

[Rahmi Aygun report from Seoul]

[Text] Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut was received at a Seoul military airport by ROK Prime Minister No Chae-pong. After the national anthems of the two countries were played, Akbulut inspected the honor guard. He then went to the national military cemetery, where he laid a wreath in memory of the South Korean soldiers who died in the Korean war.

In the afternoon, Akbulut met his counterpart, No Chae-pong. In a statement before the meeting, Akbulut said that even though they are geographically distant, the peoples of Turkey and the ROK have warm historic relations. Following the meeting between the two prime ministers, the delegations of the two countries convened. Justice Minister Oltan Sungurlu and officials from the Prime Ministry and the Foreign Ministry attended the meeting. Bilateral relations and various international questions were discussed. Then an agreement was signed under which the two countries will mutually encourage investments.

In the evening, Akbulut attended a dinner given in his honor by No Chae-pong. In his dinner speech, Akbulut said that the strong ties of friendship between Turkey and the ROK will encourage the development of the relations in all fields. He said: The friendship between the Turkish and Korean people has developed and strengthened since the Korean war. The fact that our countries fought side by side for the same ideals not very long ago constitutes the foundation of our friendship. The similarities in our nations' habits, traditions, and customs bring us closer together.

Prime Minister Akbulut said that Turkey appreciates the policy of peace and stability that the ROK has been pursuing in the face of the rapid developments in international relations. I hope that the dialogue between the South and the North continues and that the separation ends, he said, adding that Turkey will continue to support the ROK's efforts in that field.

In his speech, Akbulut also discussed the developments in the Middle East, Turkish-Greek relations, and the Cyprus question.

In turn, the ROK prime minister said that the heroism of the Turkish soldiers and the friendship of the Turkish people during the Korean War will always be in their hearts. We follow with admiration, he said, the progress Turkey has been making in its economy and democracy. No Chae-pong then thanked Turkey for its support for the unification of the two Koreas.

Akbulut will go to Pusan tomorrow, where he will visit the UN cemetery. He will then attend a lunch sponsored by the World Labor Council. Later, he will return to Seoul and end his visit to the ROK on Thursday.

Investment Protection Agreed

SK1505013091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0109 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 15 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Turkey signed an investment protection agreement Tuesday under which investors of each nation are granted most-favored treatment, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

The accord was inked by Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok and Turkish Justice Minister Oltan Sungurlu, who is accompanying Turkish Prime Minister Yildirim Akbulut on a visit to Korea, the ministry said.

As a result, more Korean firms will be able to invest in Turkey, a ministry spokesman said. Two-way trade last year totaled about 500 million U.S. dollars.

Political 'Turmoil' Sends Stock Market Reeling

SK1105072091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0643 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—Political and social turmoil over the killing of a student by riot police further depressed the sagging South Korean stock market this week.

Few players were willing to buy as students and workers joined dissidents in the biggest demonstrations in four years and the Korean Government warned it would get tougher than ever with lawbreakers.

Share prices slid steadily from the beginning of the week, with the composite stock price index losing 15.33 points from the previous week's end to close at 629.17.

Trading was extremely dull with daily volume averaging 6.06 million shares, just half last week's 12.53 million shares.

The market started the week bearish, and when worries about the political future prevailed buyers disappeared.

After a four-day losing streak, the market advanced a little Thursday on expectations of an improvement in inter-Korean relations with the visit of Kim U-chung, chairman of the Daewoo Group, to North Korea.

Share prices fell again Friday with the year's lowest trading volume.

Rumors that the government was studying "epochal" stock market boosting measures to gain support for the June 12 local elections failed to revive market sentiment.

The all-share index lost 4.89 points to close at 629.83 on volume of 4.53 million shares, the lowest this year, due to jitters about growing unrest as the government toughened its posture against protests.

The market is expected to continue the low profile next week as the political and social unrest is sure to continue. The funeral for Kang Kyong-tae, the Myongji University student who was beaten to death by riot police, is scheduled for Tuesday and May 18 is the 11th anniversary of the Kwangju uprising.

Teachers' Antigovernment Activities Increasing

SK1405011191 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 May 91 p 3

[Text] In defiance of a government ban on collective dissident action by school teachers, an increasing number of teachers at primary and secondary schools across the country are daring to call for full-fledged democratic reforms.

Since last Wednesday, a total of 3,003 teachers have joined in issuing antigovernment statements, according to statistics compiled by the Education Ministry.

The figure breaks down to 911 in Seoul, 529 in Chollanam-to, 466 in Inchon, 400 in Kyonggi-to, 226 in Kyongsangpuk-to and 118 in Kyongsangnam-to.

About 350 school teachers in Kangwon and Chungchong provinces were the latest signatories to join forces with their colleagues who are seeking democratic reforms in educational circles and other social fields.

Some 140 teachers at 92 primary and secondary schools in Kangwon-to gathered in Chunchon yesterday morning to announce a statement.

Leaders of the signature campaign denounced the No Tae-u administration for failing to meet the national demand for sweeping democratic reforms.

The government is instead trying to crack down on reform-seeking teachers by branding them as "security risks," they claimed in the statement.

"We, teachers cannot idly sit by in this situation as students fall prey to the autocratic No regime that resorts to violent means to destroy democratic forces," they said.

In Taejon, 213 teachers in Chungchong provinces yesterday made a vow to demand the comprehensive reforms to cope with the current social crisis which was triggered by the beating-death of a university student by police and ensuing self-immolation by five others.

Police Halt Funeral Procession in Violent Clash

SK1505024191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0151 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 15 (YONHAP)—Thousands of riot police in Seoul kept the funeral procession for Kang Kyong-tae, the student killed during a demonstration last month, from reaching City Hall on Tuesday in a violent confrontation with mourners.

The coffin was taken to nearby Yonsei University by funeral organizers, who said they would try again later in the week to hold a memorial service in front of city hall as that was the will of Kang's family.

Around 9:30 P.M., after hours of showdown with the police at Shinchon Rotary in western Seoul, the cortege went to nearby Yonsei University to place the body back in the morgue.

Permission was denied and the corpse spent the night in the lobby of the student building.

An estimated 200,000 students, opposition politicians and dissidents took part in the funeral and in protests in 15 other cities across the country, according to published reports. In Seoul, independent observers estimated the number of mourners at 100,000, police put the figure at 35,000.

Most of the rallies ended in violent clashes with the police, who unleashed 25,000 tear gas canisters, at nine locations nationwide late into the night. Police said 102 people were detained and of them 82 held for questioning on suspicion of violence. In Seoul, three police tear-gas vans used as barricades were burnt, and in Ulsan, South Kyongsang Province, a district labor committee office was firebombed along with two cars in the parking lot.

All the three opposition parties participated in the funeral, signalling an all-out opposition offense against the government and the ruling party through "street politics." Top opposition leader Kim Tae-chung, head of the New Democratic Party, made his first appearance in street march since Kang was killed, walking in front of the procession and getting zapped with tear gas.

After a service at Myongji University, where Kang was a freshman, the procession arrived at the busy Shinchon Rotary at 5:20 P.M., five hours behind schedule, after a three-hour confrontation with the police on the road near the private homes of former President Chon Tu-hwan and President No Tae-u.

The police said the road was too narrow for the procession to pass, but apparently feared the mourners might firebomb the house of Chon, No's classmate in the military academy.

At the rotary, they held a ceremony for five youths who set themselves ablaze in protest over Kang's death and a jailed union leader found dead outside a hospital. Of the five, four have died and one is listed in critical but fair condition.

At around 6:35, when the ceremony ended, the police blocked the procession from going toward City Hall and clashes broke out between tear gas-firing police and students hurling firebombs and rocks.

The cortege reached Yonsei University at around 10:10 P.M. and the organizers, comprising 55 dissident organizations, announced the indefinite postponement of the funeral.

There is a possibility Kang's funeral will resume on Thursday together with the funeral for Yun Yong-ha, who set himself ablaze in Kwangju last week to protest the government's claim that subversives might have abetted the series of self-immolations.

The organizers, who also led recent massive street protests against the government, said: "As soon as the funerals of the six martyrs are completed, the present loosely-knit dissident joint organization will be strengthened into a tighter nationwide group in order to beef up the anti-government struggle."

Police To 'Help' Funeral if Peace Guaranteed

SK1505084291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0830 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 15 (YONHAP)—Home Minister Yi Sang-yon said Wednesday that the police were ready to help in every way possible to complete the funeral of Kang Kyong-tae, a student beaten to death by riot policemen, if organizers would guarantee peace.

He appealed to the organizers to cooperate with the government so the funeral could take place as soon as possible. Police blocked Kang's funeral procession from bringing Kang's body to city hall on Tuesday.

Expressing concern about the anti-government protests which intensified after the funeral was halted, Yi said he would not allow a funeral service in front of city hall unless there was a guarantee it would be peaceful.

"The street protests last night in 15 cities caused not only severe damage with 140 people being injured and four police vehicles burned but heavy traffic congestion and partial closure of the subway system," he said.

He said the government was worried by some of the slogans at Kang's funeral, fearing they could incite anti-Americanism and subversion.

"That the funeral service committee returned Kang's coffin to Yonsei University is positive proof it never intended to hold the funeral peacefully," he said.

He also accused the organizers of using Kang's death to stir up anti-government sympathies.

DLP 'Blitzkrieg' Passage of Bills Analyzed

SK1105070791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0621 GMT 11 May 91

[Report by Yi Tong-min]

[Text] Seoul, May 11 (YONHAP)—The battle is not over between the ruling and opposition camps after the blitzkrieg passage of the National Security Law and Police Law reform bills Friday. In fact, it is only beginning.

Opposition lawmakers pushed, shoved, cursed and brawled as National Assembly Speaker Pak Chun-kyu, in just 40 seconds, tabled the bills, asked if there were any objections, passed the bills and adjourned the session while standing under heavy guard near a back door with a radio microphone.

The ruling Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), which has 218 of the 299 seats in the assembly, had the final say on the bills, proposed first by the opposition parties when they were in the majority in 1988.

Passage gave the main opposition New Democratic Party [NDP] and the splinter Democratic Party [DP] yet another justification for launching their threatened all-out war against President No Tae-u's government, a cause which already has massive support.

A blitzkrieg was anticipated despite days of DLP-NDP negotiations. When a last-minute attempt at a compromise failed Thursday, the DLP said it could no longer wait and virtually declared it was ready to railroad the bills through.

The issue of the reform bills became "bigger than life" because of the peculiar domestic political and social situation. National unrest has boiled over since the death of a 20-year-old college freshman Kang Kyong-tae at the hands of plainclothed riot policemen April 26.

Six students and other young activists have set themselves ablaze or jumped from rooftops since the tragedy in protest against No and his government. One death, that of radical union leader Pak Chang-su, was not directly related to Kang's killing but has served to inflame anti-government feelings.

On Thursday, nearly 200,000 people rallied against the government in the biggest street protests against No since he took office three years ago.

NDP lawmakers are participating in the street demonstrations and the party, confident it is backed by public opinion, has alligned itself with the students and dissidents in demanding the dismissal of Prime Minister No Chae-pong and his entire cabinet.

The DLP, unable as yet to agree on comprehensive measures to appease public anger and restore calm, has virtually ensured a head-on collision with the opposition by passing the bills.

When NDP negotiators said Thursday they would continue the reform bill negotiations only on condition that No and the cabinet step down, the ruling party said, "This is it."

Friday afternoon's display of bulldozer legislation was actually the third of the week. The first was on Tuesday in the National Assembly Judiciary and Legislative Committee and the second earlier Thursday, at which time opposition lawmakers muscled in to block it.

The bills revise the 11-year-old National Security Law and establish an independent police agency and a commission to guarantee the police agency's neutrality.

As revised, the National Security Law, which replaced the Anti-Communist Law in 1980, punishes those who praise an enemy of the state or harbor or assist anti-state criminals only if they did so "intentionally" to harm the country.

The requirement to report a violation of the National Security Law now applies only to espionage, whereas before anyone who knew of any anti-state act, including praising or visiting an enemy, was breaking the law if they failed to tell the government.

The new police law calls for a seven-member commission, two of them judges, to watch over the police agency.

The DLP was bent on passing these bills and another to amend the Law on the Agency for National Security

Planning during this sitting. DLP members say the reforms are meant to cap President No's term in office, which ends in February 1993. No is inelligible for re-election. Given the tight political timetable, with local elections next month and general elections early next year, the DLP was determined to get the reform bills out of the way.

"The reform bills were promised to the people. It was promised that they would be passed during the 13th National Assembly. What will people think of us (lawmakers) if we fail to keep our word?" Rep. Na Ung-pae, chief DLP policy-maker, said on coming out of the failed negotiation talks.

Some DLP officials accused the opposition of setting up the situation, secretly hoping that the ruling party would railroad the bills through so the issue could be used to the opposition's advantage.

Why else would the NDP, on the final day of negotiations, have suddenly linked their demand for the cabinet's resignation to the compromise talks, they contend. And why did the NDP keep changing its mind about nomination procedures for members of the police commission, insisting first that they be nominated by the Supreme Court and at the last minute insisting the Korean Bar Association should choose them, they ask.

The NDP claims that from the start the ruling party never intended to compromise. The DLP was trying to railroad the bills through committee while the negotiation talks were still going on, opposition leaders point out.

The negotiations were just a stage show, they say.

The railroading may well be the straw that breaks the camel's back. One of the major targets of current demonstrations is the dissolution of the DLP, and by using force to pass legislation the ruling party only reinforced the growing perception that it is undemocratic.

Lawmaker Accuses Party Bosses of 'Mud-Slinging'

SK1505015591 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 15 May 91 p 2

[Text] A Senior lawmaker of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party DLP yesterday brazenly accused party bosses of engaging in mud-slinging over their thirst for power, thus resulting in the current socio-political crisis.

Rep. Yi Chong-chan, apparently bracing for rebuttals from the ruling camp leadership, pelted political leaders with acrid criticism, saying, "Today's social crisis has come about because the political circle has failed to present visions to the people, thus disappointing them."

"In order to tide over the crisis, stern measures are needed," he added in a speech as a guest at a breakfast gathering hosted by a group of Protestant pastors at a Seoul hotel.

Touching on ways of defusing the ever-worsening situation since the fatal beating of a student protester by police, Yi, 55, said, "The resignation of Cabinet ministers en masse could be one method but what is needed are fundamental steps instead of tactical ones to cope with the situation."

His remarks were taken as a frontal attack on the party leadership.

Yi, who is depicted as a "dove" in the ruling camp, came up with a more exacting denunciation of his party bosses, saying, "The DLP, since its merger (over one year ago), has disappointed the public by being engaged in endless in-house feuding over the pursuit of power."

"It is the ruling party that has to shoulder the responsibility for the people's complaints regarding politics," he voiced.

He directly targeted DLP executive chairman Kim Yong-sam, "He once said that he has ideas to defuse the crisis but it was proved he has none."

He added, "It is not good to leave every problem in the hands of the President."

Yi, who is widely believed to harbor political ambitions, said, "As seen in demonstrations against New Democratic Party leader Kim Tae-chung, neither the ruling nor the opposition leaders have won the people's hearts."

He went on to say, "Political parties have to repent for the fact that the people have no one to turn to."

Shifting to the ruling party's recent ramming of a security law amendment through the House in a blitzkrieg manner, Yi lashed out at party leaders, saying, "Even if the security law was ameliorated, the ruling party still failed in that respect by acting like a thief."

'Dissent' Within DLP Urges Cabinet Reshuffle

SK1505083191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0754 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 15 (YONHAP)—Dissent is spreading within President No Tae-u's Democratic Liberal Party (DLP), with voices urging a cabinet reshuffle getting louder.

At a party affairs meeting Wednesday, members of DLP Executive Chairman Kim Yong-sam's faction sided with the demonstrators' demands that the entire cabinet be replaced.

The situation is much more serious now than in the summer of 1987, Rep. Hwang Nak-chu said. In June four years ago, wave after wave of protests and demonstrations led Chun's handpicked successor, No, to promise direct presidential elections and democratic reforms.

Some 1,500 academics from 48 universities issued statements urging changes during a two-month period before No announced reforms, Hwang said. In just nine days after the police killed a demonstrator April 26, more than 2,600 professors from 60 universities issued similar statements, he said.

Current protests are the biggest to sully No's three-year-old administration. They were sparked by the beating death of 20-year-old Kang Kyong-tae by riot policemen and have become, lawmakers at the meeting said, "a dangerous situation."

"In North Chungchong Province, professors are joining street demonstrations for the first time since the April 19 uprising in 1960," he said. That student revolt toppled the government.

Rep. Yi Chong-chan, a senior in No's own faction, surprised DLP officials Tuesday by lashing out at his party for the national crisis and demanding "drastic" changes, apparently supporting calls for the cabinet's resignation.

Yi made similar remarks at the meeting, calling on the government to "start with a clean slate" and to carefully consider "what is really necessary."

Rep. Pak Yong-man urged the prime minister to resign and Rep. Kim Chong-ki said his departure was "needed to free people from their fears."

The DLP was formally inaugurated in February last year in the merger of the ruling and two opposition parties. Executive Chairman Kim, who was head of one of the parties, and his faction are firm advocates of a cabinet reshuffle.

Kim, No. 2 in the party hierarchy after No, is said to have strongly recommended a reshuffle during a meeting with the president on May 11. At the meeting, however, he counselled prudence and repeated an earlier promise that the party would announce solutions in the near future.

Lawmakers Receive Suspended Sentences for Bribes

SK1005082591 Seoul YONHAP in English 0756 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 10 (YONHAP)—Three South Korean lawmakers who took nearly 60,000 U.S. dollars in bribes from a lobbying group were given suspended sentences Friday in a Seoul District Criminal Court.

The judge said the three deserved heavy sentences but were being let off lightly because they had shown remorse for their actions.

Rep. Yi Chae-kun, a former chairman of the National Assembly Trade and Industry Committee and a member of the opposition New Democratic Party (NDP), was sentenced to three years in jail with a stay of execution for four years for taking bribes from the Korea Automobile Manufacturers' Association and violating the foreign exchange control law.

Reps. Yi Ton-man of the NDP and Pak Chin-ku, formerly of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party, were given prison terms of two and a half years suspended for three years.

The trio took 43 million won (59,300 dollars) from Kama to pay for a tour of the United States and Canada on Jan. 9-18.

The judge said he also went easy on them considering that their arrest prompted the National Assembly to write an ethics code for lawmakers.

The prosecution had asked for sentences of five to six years in prison.

An appeal is automatic and the lawmakers will retain their seats in the National Assembly until their conviction is confirmed by the supreme court. Such appeals often take many years, and the case is unlikely to reach the Supreme Court for a very long time.

Kama President Chon Song-won and Vice President Yim To-chong were sentenced to 12 months and eight months, respectively, for offering bribes but released with stay of execution for two years and one year.

Seoul To Stabilize Prices, Balance of Payments

SK1405074091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0505 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Seoul, May 14 (YONHAP)—The government will lower domestic oil prices and control the money supply to stabilize prices and bolster the balance of payments, economic officials said Tuesday.

Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, chairing a meeting of economic ministers, placed key emphasis on reducing domestic demand, sustaining the money flow, expanding infrastructure and early settlement of wage talks for a stable economy.

Choe, who is also economic planning minister, instructed the economic policy-makers to minimize the impact of the current anti-government demonstrations and protest suicides by emphasizing uniformity in policy direction and earning public trust.

One of the first steps will be to lower oil prices 10 percent to 20 percent, an official said. Readjustment was planned for after August, but the economic ministers decided to push up the date to better control inflation.

Consumer prices rose 5.4 percent during first four months of the year, the highest in 11 years and a threat to government plans to keep inflation in single digits for the year.

Korea had a balance of payments deficit of 3.87 billion U.S. dollars for the first quarter, and to prevent the deficit from growing, Choe urged control of domestic demand, especially consumer consumption and construction.

The government is keeping the money supply growth rate at 17-19 percent for the year but will go ahead with interest rate liberalization in the second half, the officials said.

It is to direct funds and labor for a stronger manufacturing industry, supported by expanded investment in roads, ports and other infrastructure.

Management will be urged to complete wage negotiations early and the labor ministry will announce workers' welfare measures by end of this month, the officials said.

Burma

Students Warned About 'Diabolic Schemes'

BK1405115191 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council [YDLORC], and Colonel Pe Thein, minister of health and education, addressed a meeting with faculty members of universities in Yangon and parents and students at the Convocation hall of Yangon University at 1000 and 1300 today.

In his address Col. Pe Thein said there were things he wanted to say regarding the reopening of schools. Schools were closed down in 1988 because of the adverse situation in the country and this disrupted the life of the children who failed to reach their envisaged goals. Schools are about to reopen now because the teachers, parents, and students agree to take responsibility.

Some politicians are trying to make political gain and cause disturbances when the schools reopen. However, if the teachers, parents, and students work together to ensure peaceful studies, the education process will go on with momentum. On the other hand, if someone goes astray and causes disturbances, schools will have to be closed down again and any efforts made by us to reopen the schools will go to waste.

With regard to the transfer of power, work is being done according to what has been declared by the state. This being the case, it is necessary for the students to concentrate on their studies. He said: Teachers should stay free from party politics and impart their knowledge about the lessons drawn from the incidents of 1988 to the students.

Next, Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt took the floor. He said: I have come to meet the parents, teachers, and students because colleges and universities are to reopen soon. I must speak about things that should be told, out of duty as the chairman of the YDLORC who is in charge of ensuring peace and tranquility in the nation—the first of the three major tasks being undertaken by the State Law and Order Restoration Council; as the commander of the Yangon Military Command who is responsible for operations, security, and law and order in Yangon Division; and as a parent of children who are students.

I shall be speaking about the possibility of political parties, which are in touch with both the overt and covert destructive elements, attempting to disrupt peaceful studies. The reason schools can be reopened now is only because it is the wish of the parents, teachers, and students. Since the state government does not assume the responsibility of reopening the schools, the duty to prevent disturbances from arising lies with the students, teachers, and parents.

We do not force you to attend schools just because they are being reopened, you may attend only if that is your wish. We will not tolerate any attempt to test our strength similar to the incident in Mandalay. Hence, it is essential for the students themselves and the teachers and parents to ensure peaceful studies.

Continuing, the commander said: I wish to inform you about the diabolic schemes and deeds aimed at disrupting peaceful studies by some political parties which are interested only in gaining power. We have been hearing about and also have evidence that political parties, which are demanding the immediate transfer of power, intend to politically exploit the situation once the universities are reopened. We also know that some chairmen, secretaries, and central executive committee members of political parties are about to attend the schools without officially tendering their resignations from the parties to the Elections Commission. There are also other people who have plans to make the initial moves this year and to go into full swing of activities in the next academic year. In addition, there are some individuals who intend to resolve their intra-party problems when the schools reopen. We will not stand idly by and watch them bring their internal problems out into the open to create disturbances and disrupt peaceful studies. If such a thing is done, I must warn those political parties that excessively crave power that they shall be held responsible.

Senior General Saw Maung, commander in chief of the Defense Services, said in his 46th Defense Services Day message: We will not tolerate those who clamor for democracy while doing whatever they wish. We will have to watch with vigilance and take legal action against those selfish, unprincipled, and politically immoral persons who give little consideration to the national affairs and only think about how to gain power. We must always be vigilant to prevent the diabolic schemes and deeds of those lawbreakers from gaining the upper hand. Organizations concerned must be reported. Lawless and unreasonable acts by those self-appointed central executive committees and dissenting factions should be watched carefully.

These words of advice were not only guidelines for the Defense Services personnel to follow, they also drew the attention of the people to the situation.

In the same way, the secretary-1 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council, Major General Khin Nyunt, said during his meeting with high-ranking officials and professors from the Ministry of Edcuation on 1 April 1991 that should anyone make use of innocent youths as sacrificial lambs to create disturbances and violence, we will have to take effective action by thinking about the interests of the nation.

This being the case, we will never permit a situation such as 1988 to emerge again. In the same way, I wish to tell the political parties that we will make effective use of force as a preventive measure if those political parties abroad exploit the students engaging in peaceful studies.

President Dr. Maung Maung gave a speech regarding peaceful studies at the extraordinary People's Assembly meeting on 10 September 1988. He opened up opportunities when he said elections would be held within three months so that a peaceful transfer of power could take place. He said the students were to peacefully return to their classes and joyously rebuild the Student Union Building.

However, those educated politicians and those who were educated in the West rejected the offer, saying that holding elections in three months would not be practical under democracy and that at least two years were needed to practice democracy. What surprises us today is that there are demands for a quick transfer of power.

While on this subject, I wish to quote Dr. Maung Maung again. He said: If you are wrong or if others are wrong, please correct the ways. Do not do the wrong thing just because the others are, because two wrongs do not make a right.

In accordance with this saying, you—teachers, parents, and students—should correct your ways if they have been wrong. You should not continue them just because others are doing so.

Although the government is not responsible for ensuring the continuity of studies, improvements that should have been made have been coordinated with the responsible officials concerned. Parents should be responsible for rearing their children in a proper way and teachers should control the situation making sure they know their own students and the enemy who may try to disrupt peaceful study.

To do so, departments concerned have been authorized the necessary powers in accordance with the 1988 Adaptation of Expressions Law [law changing names of leading administrative and judicial bodies], or the State Law and Order Restoration Council Law No. 8/88.

To avoid falling short of their education objectives, students are reminded to strive hard to learn from the teachers and not to place their emotions before others. Since a university is a place where one can complete his of her studies, students are advised to strive toward that end so that the number of qualified people will increase. Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said they should strive to become good as well as capable persons taking up the responsibilities of the state in the capacity in which they are well trained.

Further Warnings Issued

BK1505111591 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 May 91

[Excerpt] Major General Myo Nyunt, chairman of Yangon [Rangoon] Division Law and Order Restoration Council [YDLORC], and Colonel Pe Thein, minister of health and education, addressed a meeting with faculty members of universities in Yangon and parents and students at the Convocation hall of the Yangon University at 1300 today.

Also present on the occasion were commanders of military regions, chairmen of township law and order restoration councils, U Win Maung, director general, and responsible officials of the Higher Education Department; rectors, professors, heads of departments, teaching staff, parents, and students.

In his address Maj. Gen. Myo Nyunt said: I have explained the plan by political parties to disrupt peaceful study. What we have learned now is that they intend to instigate disturbances by demanding for the transfer of power on May 27—the anniversary of last year's elections—and by dressing male students with pinni overcoats and Rakhine paso's [reddish brown raw cotton overcoats and sarong-like wraparound cloth symbolizing nationalism] and female students with pinni dresses and yaw [traditional local cotton] sarongs on the opening day of the universities. We will not tolerate such attempts to disrupt and threaten peaceful studies.

Our Defense Services will continue to abide by what Senior General Saw Maung had commented in his speech on 46th Armed Forces Day, and it is necessary for the people to understand this. [passage omitted]

Reopening of Universities, NLD Issue Analyzed

OW1505094591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0442 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Yangon [Rangoon], May 15 KYODO—Myanmar [Burma] universities resumed classes Wednesday, nearly three years after they were closed down in the wake of nationwide pro-democracy demonstrations.

In reopening the universities, authorities are apparently convinced that the students no longer represent a threat to civil order and stability, Western diplomatic sources in Yangon said.

Officials have prohibited political activities on campus and on Monday firmly warned students, parents, and faculty members against antigovernment agitation.

Some 222,000 students returned to Yangon University and other elite institutions throughout the nation Wednesday.

All educational institutions were closed down in June 1988 following the wave of protests nationwide led by students and Buddhist monks.

Elementary and secondary schools were reopened in 1989 and some colleges resumed classes this February, but Yangon University and some other prestigious institutions were still considered politically threatening.

The Western diplomatic sources suggested the authorities seem confident that they have successfully contained the National League for Democracy [NLD] and its large student following.

The influence of the NLD and its former secretary general, Aung San Suu Kyi, has faded since its victory in parliamentary elections last May, the sources said, adding that government authorities anticipate no threat arising from the reopening of the universities.

The NLD won a landslide victory in parliamentary elections last May but has been prevented from assuming government control by the military.

Council Legalizes Surrendered Insurgent Groups

BK1405160791 Rangoon Myanmar Athan Radio in Burmese 1330 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] The Ministry of Home and Religious Affairs, Government of the Union of Myanmar [Burma], issued Notification No. 2/91 in Yangon [Rangoon] today, 14 May 1991. The notification reads:

Subject: Removal from List of Unlawful Associations

The chairman of the State Law and Order Restoration Council has restored the legality of the following organizations, which were previously declared as unlawful associations, with effect from the dates they re-entered the legal fold:

a. Myanmar National Democracy Alliance, MNDA, [Kokang group] led by U Phon Kyar Shin. Date legalized: 31 March 1989.
b. Myanmar National Solidarity Party, MNSP, [Wa group] led by U Kyauk Nyi Hlaing. Date legalized 9 May 1989.
c. National Democracy Alliance Army—Military and Local Administration Committee, Eastern Shan State—NDAA, led by U Sai Lin. Date legalized 30 June 1989.
d. Shan State Army, SSA, led by U Say Htin. Date legalized 24 September 1989.
e. New Democratic Army, Kachin—NDA—[from the 101st Military Region of the Burma Communist Party] led by U Sakhon Tainyain. Date legalized 15 December 1989.
f. Kachin Defense Army, KDA [formerly 4th Brigade of the Kachin Independence Army] led by U Mahtu Naw. Date legalized 11 January 1991.
g. Pa-o National Organization, PNO, led by U Aung Khamti. Date legalized 18 February 1991.
h. Palaung State Liberation Party, PSLP, led by U Ai Mong. Date legalized 21 April 1991.

Signed: Lieutenant General Phone Myint, minister of home and religious affairs.

Energy Minister: 'No New Oilfields' Found

BK1105104291 Rangoon Burma Television Network in Burmese 1330 GMT 10 May 91

[Excerpt] A coordination meeting for 1991-92 on oilfields of Myanmar [Burma] Oil and Gas Enterprise of the Ministry of Energy was held at 0900 today at the head office of Myanmar Petrochemical Enterprise on Minye Kyawzwa Street, Rangoon.

Speaking at the meeting, Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin, minister for energy and mines, said that the State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] is working relentlessly for construction, transportation, and economic projects in the country and that oil and gas play an important role for the success of these projects. Therefore, he added, it is necessary for public service personnel concerned to make the utmost efforts to surpass the target set for oil and gas production.

He said when he assumed the post of minister for energy after the [1988] disturbances, production of oil and gas was declining because of the disturbances, but the production of oil and gas has gradually picked up since then under close supervision. However, he added, according to April 1991 statistics on production, the target has yet to be met. He said at the time of greater energy demand for the government's expanded border region development work in addition to national construction and reconstruction works, oil and gas production has declined instead of increasing. He said, therefore, it will be necessary to review the current situation and seek ways to increase output from existing oilfields.

Rear Admiral Maung Maung Khin said that despite the concerted efforts for oil exploration by the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise, no new oilfields have been found. Therefore, he said, it will be especially necessary to strive to prevent the decline of the existing rate of production. He said while striving to maintain the existing production rate, it will be necessary to make efforts to find new oil fields.

He said contracts had been signed with nine foreign firms for inland oil exploration and with one foreign firm for offshore oil exploration, that exploration work is being undertaken, and that some places are believed to have oil and gas for certain. He urged the Myanmar Oil and Gas Enterprise to have its own initiative and determination in working in competition with the foreign oil companies to find oil and gas. [passage omitted]

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Police Say Sabah Figure Held Under ISA

BK1405035891 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0319 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Kota Kinabalu, May 14 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Dr. Jeffrey Kitingan, younger brother of the chief minister of the East Malaysian state of Sabah, Joseph Pairin Kitingan was arrested under the Internal Security Act [ISA] Monday.

Inspector-General of Police Haniff Omar said in a statement that Dr. Kitingan, who is the Sabah Foundation director, was detained at the Kota Kinabalu police station under Section 73 (1) of the ISA.

He said Dr. Kitingan was being detained under Section 8 of the ISA for acting in a manner detrimental to the security of Malaysia in that he is said to have been involved in a plot to take Sabah out of Malaysia.

Section 73 (1) (b) of the ISA empowers the police to arrest and detain, without a warrant, any person whom they have reason to believe has acted or is about to act or is likely to act in any manner prejudicial to the country's security.

Daily To Pay Damages for Defaming Lee Kuan Yew

BK1305125291 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0830 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 13 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The publisher of the Malaysian daily THE STAR and its group chief editor V.K. Chin Monday agreed to apologise and pay Malaysian $270,000 (about US$100,000) in damages and costs to former Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew for publishing defamatory articles concerning Lee four years ago.

The out-of-court settlement was recorded before High Court Judge Siti Norma Yaacob.

It was agreed that the apology be published Tuesday in a prominent position on the front page of the English tabloid and in the SUNDAY STAR on May 19.

Lee's counsel, Cecil Abraham, told reporters that the quantum of damages, totalling Malaysian $200,000, awarded to Lee, now Singapore senior minister, was the highest amount given in a libel suit in the country. The other Malaysian $70,000 was for costs.

Lee sued STAR publications and Chin on March 7 for defaming him in two articles entitled "Graft in the Squeaky Clean Republic" and "Second Shock in Graft Affair," which appeared in the SUNDAY STAR on February 1 and February 22, 1987.

He said the articles had, among other things, meant that he was dishonest, insincere, and lacking in integrity.

Tanzanian Minister on Investment, Cooperation

BK0805012491 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0728 GMT 7 May 91

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, May 7 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Tanzania, a major cotton producing country, is inviting the Malaysian private sector to explore the possibility of setting up downstream cotton processing plants in the East African nation, its Foreign and Economic Cooperation Minister Ahmad Hasan Diria said Tuesday.

Malaysian companies could also scout for opportunities in the country's mineral sector, such as in oil and gas exploration, he told newsmen after calling on Minister of International Trade and Industry Rafidah Aziz at her office here.

Besides enhancing bilateral trading ties to add to already strong political relationship, he said such moves would also further cement South-South cooperation.

Elaborating on business opportunities in Tanzania, he added that cotton processing plants could be set up on a joint venture basis to make finished textile products, or the cotton could be imported for processing here under countertrade arrangements.

Hassan said a draft agreement for a Malaysia-Tanzania joint commission was ready and would form the framework for increasing economic ties between the two countries, which were still at a low level.

He added that the joint commission could be officially set up if Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed accepted Tanzanian President Ali Hassan Mwinyi's invitation to visit Tanzania.

Rafidah said the joint commission would not just be a government-to-government affair, but also include the private sectors of both countries to facilitate the working out of "something concrete" such as double taxation agreements or investment incentives which would be mutually beneficial.

For the moment, she added, one way of enhancing bilateral trade was to do away with trading through third countries. Tanzania now buys Malaysian palm oil and sells its cloves to Malaysia through third parties.

Rafidah said the South Investment Trade and Technology Data Exchange Centre or SITTDEC, proposed by Malaysia to promote South-South trade, could also serve to provide information on business opportunities in both countries which could be exploited by their private sectors.

Singapore

'Growth Triangle' Moves Against Economic Crime

BK0705121191 Singapore THE STRAITS TIMES in English 7 May 91 p 22

[By Brendan Pereira]

[Text] The police forces of Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia have started working closely to strengthen their policing of the Growth Triangle.

Tan Sri Haniff Omar, Inspector-General of the Royal Malaysian Police, said officers from the Johor Police have discussed and exchanged information with their Singapore counterparts.

Besides this, a Singapore police delegation has also met police officers from the Riau Islands.

The Growth Triangle covers the joint economic development and cooperation of Johor, the Indonesian islands of Riau, and Singapore.

Speaking to reporters after the opening of the 11th ASEANAPOL [ASEAN police] conference yesterday, Tan Sri Haniff said: We are anticipating certain elements taking advantage of the Growth Triangle to commit crime.

"...We have had discussions with Singapore police to exchange intelligence and map out strategy."

Tan Sri Haniff said that while there had always been cooperation between the Johor and Singapore police, the Growth Triangle has made it necessary for Johor police to have more formal ties with officers here.

During a meeting last month between the two, it was decided there would be a direct exchange of information on criminal investigations concerning both sides.

The discussions also centred on marine policing matters and criminal gangs operating on both sides.

Later, Singapore Police Commissioner Goh Yong Hong told reporters that a team of officers had also paid a visit to the Riau Islands last September.

This was to discuss further ways for both forces to cooperate and also exchange information on criminal activities.

Policing of the Growth Triangle aside, Tan Sr Haniff said ties between the Malaysian and Singapore police had been strengthened with the plan to launch joint operations.

He said teams comprising officers from both countries were being set up to undertake anti-crime operations.

It is learnt the joint teams would investigate crimes such as forgery of passports, currency and identification documents and various cheating offences.

Malaysian Defense Minister Holds Talks 10 May

BK1005152691 Singapore Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] The visiting Malaysian Defense Minister Datuk Sri Mohamed Najib Tun Abdul Razak this morning held a round of talks with Communications and Second Defense Minister Dr. Yeo Ning Hong. Also joining the ministers at the round of talks were the Senior Minister of State for Defense Dr. Lee Boon Yang, the Malaysian high commissioner, and senior officials from the Malaysian and Singapore armed forces. Datuk Sri Najib is in Singapore for a two-day official visit at [words indistinct].

Later in the afternoon, the Malaysian minister visited Singapore Aerospace which involves in the assembly, refurbishment, and maintenance of military and commercial aircraft. Datuk Sri Najib leaves for home tonight.

Supports Mutual Defense Ties

BK1005111791 Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0800 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Defense Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Razak says defense cooperation with Singapore will further enhance regional peace and security. He said that is the main theme of the Five Power Defense Arrangement, FPDA, the cooperation will give more credence to the FPDA [sentence as heard]. The arrangement includes also Britain, Australia, and New Zealand.

Datuk Sri Najib was speaking to newsmen during a two-day official visit to Singapore. He said both countries would inject new ideas into developing military cooperation. On his talks yesterday with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, Datuk Sri Najib said they agreed that bilateral military relations will be further enhanced. The Malaysian defense minister also proposed joint naval and air exercises with Singapore.

Cambodia

UN Mission Continues Phnom Penh Meetings

BK1505115491 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1100 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 14 May at 13 October Hotel, Comrade Lieutenant General Ke Kimyan, member of the party Central Committee and first deputy defense minister, received and held hearty talks with the UN team led by Ghanaian Lieutenant General Timothy Biduama, which was conducting a fact-finding mission to specifically inspect the implementation of the voluntary cease-fire in Cambodia.

After jubilantly expressing warm welcome to the mission, Comrade Lieutenent General Ke Kimyan presented a report on the military situation in Cambodia since the cease-fire appeal—launched by the Paris International Conference cochairmen and the UN secretary general—came into effect on 1 May.

Commentary: Rebels Unwilling To Meet UN Team

BK1505061191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 14 May 91

[Station commentary: "Those Who Have Goodwill Only in Words"]

[Text] The delegation of the UN military mission for monitoring the cease-fire, led by Ghanaian General Timothy Dibuama, arrived in Phnom Penh. The Cambodian party, government, and people have welcomed and prepared all facilities for this mission's team to fulfill its goal.

This is the real and unswerving goodwill of the State of Cambodia. This is not the first time that the State of Cambodia has welcomed the UN delegation.

It is known in general that the United Nations has so far sent several mission teams to Cambodia which have been given full cooperation by the State of Cambodia Government and authorities at all levels.

The Cambodian party, government, and people have pointed out clearly that under whatever mandate and framework this kind of a mission team might be, at least it would certainly contribute to seeking a genuine and lasting peace—peace without the threat of the genocidal Pol Pot regime—for Cambodia.

It is very regrettable, however, that the Cambodian groups on the other side have given the team the cold shoulder.

According to foreign sources, the day before, this UN military mission team for monitoring the cease-fire went to see leaders of the other Cambodian side, but the leader of the genocidal Pol Pot clique—Khieu Samphan—and Son Sann did not want to meet these UN diplomats.

People still remember well that on Saturday, 11 May, the genocidal alliance issued a so-called joint statement calling on Mr. Rafiuddin Ahmed to clarify his mission's mandate and the framework for the process of its work. Such an act clearly laid bare the true nature of the other Cambodian groups which have kept talking as if they want very much to settle the Cambodian problem through peaceful means. They have done this in order to draw support from the national and international public and to seek ways to put the blame on the State of Cambodia.

On 22 April, the cochairmen of the Paris International Conference on Cambodia [PICC] and the UN secretary general made an appeal calling on the warring Cambodian factions to voluntarily end their hostility. This appeal has been accepted by the State of Cambodia and the other Cambodian side. But, as the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers stressed clearly in his interview to AFP, this cease-fire is not effective enough because the rebel forces are scattered in groups with no specific locations and the cease-fire has not yet been placed under any supervision.

As a matter of fact, a few hours after the cease-fire went into effect, the other Cambodian groups grossly and flagrantly violated it. The total sum of truce violations was clearly emphasized in the 2 May message from the comrade chairman of the Council of Ministers to their excellencies, Roland Dumas and Ali Alatas, PICC cochairmen; and His Excellency Rafiuddin Ahmed.

This is why the other Cambodian groups were reluctant to accept such a military mission and pretended to ask about the mission's mandate and framework.

It is known to all that during the past more than 12 years, although they have been living on other people's thresholds and receiving a large quantity of aid from the United Nations, the other Cambodian groups have not allowed the UN experts to take part in supervising the camps under their control for fear that the international community might learn about the events in their camps.

Mr. Raoul Jennar, former diplomatic adviser to the nongovernmental organizations, revealed that the 325,000 Cambodian refugees in the seven camps along the Thai border are in fact the hostages of the Cambodian groups on the other side.

Lately, the groups have ballyhooed their unreserved acceptance of the draft UN peace plan. But because they have reluctantly welcomed this military mission, can one believe that they will cooperate with the international community in seeking peace for the Cambodian people?

Mr. Raoul Jennar also disclosed that the Pol Pot clique would continue to fight if excluded from a new government after the general elections. Therefore, the announcement on accepting the cease-fire appeal of the PICC cochairmen and the UN secretary general is just a political game of the other Cambodian groups.

All of this clearly shows that the other Cambodian groups' claim on goodwill is only their way of paying lip service, and that they are the ones who have prolonged and kindled the civil war in Cambodia. Therefore, they must be held responsible before history and the international community for their insane activities.

SPK Reports Cease-Fire Violations

BK1505055891 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0428 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 15—The Khmer opposition factions have repeatedly violated the truce which they committed themselves to observe by attacking and infiltrating into areas in various provinces after the cease-fire came into effect on May 1st.

In Military Zone 1 (Preah Vihear, Kratie, Stung Treng, Ratanakiri and Mondolkiri Provinces), 100 men of the Pol Pot faction intruded into Region No. 72.79 and looted the peasants' property nine kilometers south of Ta Sen Village. Meanwhile, two Polpotists of Division 103 reported themselves to the authorities of Trayang Commune, Kulen District, bringing along one firearm and a quantity of ammunition. According to the defectors, a truckload of ammunition was sent on May 2 to Pratheat Village (Region No. 78.44) 5 km south of Khvav Village, Svay Leu District, Siem Reap Province.

In Military Zone 2 (Kompong Thom, Kompong Cham, Svay Rieng, Prey Veng), a man of Pol Pot's Division 802 deserted and reported himself to the authorities of Santuk District, Kompong Thom Province.

In Military Zone 3 (Kompong Chhnang, Kompong Speu, Takeo, Kampot, Koh Kong, Kompong Som and Kandal), the enemy troops on May 11 attacked a government position at Region No. 70.23 (15 km northwest of Phnum Sruoch).

In Military Zone 4 (Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey), the coalition troops on May 6 fired six shells of 60-mm and 82-mm artillery and recoilless gun on an area eight kilometers north of Svay Chek, Banteay Meanchey Province. They also slammed some 50 shells of H107 recoilless gun into a government regimental position in the same province.

Meanwhile, the coalition troops attacked government forces at Region No. 27.76 (eight kilometers north of Banteay Siem Village).

In Siem Reap Province, two Pol Pot troops on May 8 surrendered to the authorities of Svay Leu District. On May 12 enemy troops launched attacks on government positions at Regions 52.39 and 55.38 (nine and ten kilometers east and northeast of Chikreng District). They also raided two areas 15 and 18 km east and northeast of the same district.

Also in Banteay Meanchey Province, the Khmer tripartite forces on May 9 fired two shells of H12 recoilless gun on an area 14 km northeast of Pang Roloem. About 400 men of the Son Sann faction and four tanks were deployed in Thmar Puok-Banteay Chhma Region.

About 100 enemy troops were also sent to Kon Trei and Thmar Sen areas, Region 2.

Some 50 men of Pol Pot's Division 450 were sent to areas south of Highway 5. The Polpotists also moved five 122-mm and 76.2-mm guns to Sala Kraham, Phum Thmei, Ta Phong and Ta Pho areas in preparation for an offensive against government forces in North Svay Chek and east of Road 69.

In Military Zone 5 (Battambang, Pursat), the enemy troops on May 9 fired 500 shells of 130-mm, 38-mm, 30-mm and H12 rockets on the areas 11 km north and northeast of Phnum Damrei. The following day, they set off ten mines on a portion of Road 10 (8 km northwest of Treng).

On May 12 the enemy troops laid mines in an area ten kilometers northeast of Pang Roloem.

VONADK Details 1-8 May Truce Violations

BK1505015591 (Clandestine) Voice of the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2315 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] From 1 May, the four Cambodian parties, along with the Vietnamese enemy aggressors, have accepted the appeal for a voluntary cease-fire made by the Paris conference cochairmen and the UN secretary general.

However, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators and their puppets and traitors to the nation, Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, Vietnam's lackeys, have deliberately and grossly violated the cease-fire on every front and battlefield. On the Pailin-Route 10 battlefield in particular from 1 to 8 May, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators and their puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, have committed the following:

1. On 1 May, 400 Vietnamese enemy aggressor troops and 1,700 puppet troops, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, along with many tanks and multiple rocket batteries, launched an offensive at Phnum Neang Len and Dap Bat.

2. On 2 May, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the puppets, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, launched an offensive north of Route 10 in the Chineang, Phnum Veng, (Pou Toes), and O Don Ta area.

3. On 4 May, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and the puppets, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, launched an offensive at Phnum Veng.

4. On 7 May, 800 Vietnamese enemy aggressor troops and 700 puppet troops, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys, launched an offensive at Phnum Sandek.

5. On 8 May, the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators dispatched 400 reinforcement troops to Treng-Route 10.

The troops of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets, traitors to the nation, and Vietnam's lackeys, who have been carrying out offensives on the Pailin-Route 10 battlefield, are from:

1. Vietnam's 330th intervention division;
2. Vietnam's 4th intervention division;
3. Vietnam's 6th intervention division;
4. Vietnamese troops mixing with puppet troops in the 196th Division;
5. Vietnamese forces mixing with puppet troops in the capital's division;
6. Vietnamese troops mixing with puppet troops in the 4th Division;
7. Vietnamese troops mixing with puppet troops in the 6th Division;
8. Vietnamese troops mixing with puppet troops in the 7th Division; and
9. The Battambang provincial troops.

People still clearly remember that the Hanoi Vietnamese enemy aggressors have never respected or implemented any agreement or treaty. The Cambodian people and the Cambodian National Resistance forces everywhere know the perfidious maneuvers of the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and race exterminators and puppets Hun Sen, Heng Samrin, and Chea Sim, traitors to the nation and Vietnam's lackeys. They are determined to persistently fight to defend the liberated zones, the nation, and the race in order to prevent the Vietnamese enemy aggressors and puppets, traitors to the nations and Vietnam's lackeys, from carrying out all kinds of criminal activities against our people.

SPK Cites VNA on Reaction to Cease-Fire

BK1305050991 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0429 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 13—Talks were held on May 11 at the Kremlin between Nguyen Van Linh, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam and Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Communist Party and president of the Soviet Union, reports VNA.

With regard to the Cambodian question, both sides affirmed their desire for active contributions to the search for an overall political solution to this question. They stressed that favourable conditions are being created for the resumption of this question.

Vietnam and the Soviet Union welcomed the fact that the warring Khmer factions had agreed to a voluntary cease-fire from May 1st this year and held that the cease-fire must be consolidated by the cessation of foreign military supplies to all the Khmer factions.

VODK: SRV Troops Sent to Battambang, Pursat

BK1405041291 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] According to reports from our Cambodian National Resistance forces on Moung, Pursat, and Battambang battlefields:

1. On 1 May, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent 1,000 fresh Vietnamese troops wearing puppet army uniforms from Vietnam through Route 1 via Phnom Penh and Kompong Chhnang and Pursat provincial seats to Battambang Province where 400 of them were deployed in Moung District and 600 others were stationed in Battambang provincial seat.

2. On 3 May, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent 1,500 fresh Vietnamese troops from Vietnam through Phnum Den and Route 2 via Phnom Penh and Kompong Chhnang provincial seat to Leach District of Pursat Province.

In sum, on 1 and 3 May, the Hanoi Vietnamese aggressors sent 2,500 fresh troops to the battlefield of aggression against Cambodia.

Commentary Remarks on SRV Foreign Policy

BK1305041391 (Clandestine) Voice of Democratic Kampuchea in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 May 91

["News commentary": "The Tense Situation in the Region Can Be Resolved Only After Its Root Cause, That Is the Vietnamese War of Aggression Against Cambodia, Is Settled"]

[Text] Following the meeting held in Moscow between Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov and Vietnamese Prime Minister Do Muoi, a joint communique was issued, noting that the normalizing relations between Vietnam and China and between Vietnam and the United States would help to improve the atmosphere in the Asia- Pacific Region.

The international community, including China and the United States, knows well that the dull atmosphere in Asia and the Pacific was caused by the Hanoi authorities' policy of regional aggression and expansion, particularly their dispatch of over 200,000 troops to invade and occupy Cambodia at the end of 1987 and their ongoing occupation of Cambodia through hundreds of thousands of their aggressor troops and forces.

It is generally accepted that only after Vietnam abandons its regional expansion ambitions, withdraws all its aggressor forces from Cambodia in line with the document of the five UN Security Council [UNSC] permanent members, and respects its neighboring countries' independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and right to self-determination can this regional tension be relaxed. Therefore, various countries, including China and the United States, have emphasized that only after Vietnam accepts an overall settlement of the Cambodian problem in line with the five UNSC permanent members' peace plan will they normalize relations with Vietnam.

But until now, the Hanoi authorities have not yet ended their war of aggression and occupation in Cambodia. They have maintained 50,000 troops and over 50,000 advisers, experts, and other personnel in Cambodia. So long as the root cause of its tension is not eradicated, the regional situation cannot be improved. Vietnam and the Soviet Union must acknowledge this fact.

Commentary: Hun Sen Follows Vietnam's Game

BK1405094791 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 14 May 91

[Political commentary: "Is Hun Sen Still Following the Vietnamese Game?"]

[Text] Hun Sen of the Heng Samrin regime recently proclaimed that the regime's Army could not be disarmed by the United Nations, no matter what, prior to free elections in Cambodia. Hun Sen also asserted that measures to take weapons away from all the Cambodian parties' armed forces stipulated in the UN peace plan were to clear the way for the Khmer Rouge's seizure of power in Cambodia.

In view of this, the Voice of the Khmer is of the opinion that the Hun Sen group has continued to follow Vietnam's political game of invading Cambodia. This is because:

1. Vietnam needs to preserve its military forces for shoring up the authority of the regime it has installed in keeping with the Vietnamese scheme, called a plan, to maintain the political and military status quo. This stratagem is part of the previous Vietnamese scheme through which Vietnam, over recent years, repeatedly stated that the situation in Cambodia was irreversible.

2. The Hun Sen group's stance is to enable Vietnam, which is extremely afraid of the peace plan forged by the Big Five and is maneuvering to hamper the plan, to break the plan into pieces, then to pick up the passages which favor the preservation of the Vietnamese policy of aggression in Cambodia.

That being the case, the rejection of the disarming measures does not mean that the Hun Sen group fears power seizure by the Khmer Rouge, but that Vietnam is afraid of the Big Five's peace plan by which the Vietnamese policy of aggression in Cambodia will be terminated for good.

If there is no disarmament or confiscation of arms caches in Cambodia, another foreseeable stratagem the Vietnamese will carry out is to let the Khmer Rouge keep weapons during elections for the purpose of enabling Vietnam or the armed forces of the Vietnamese-installed regime disguise themselves as the Khmer Rouge to launch attacks to sabotage the elections, then to lay the blame on the Khmer Rouge. This is the most convenient foul play to destroy the peace plan of the Big Five.

In sum, the Hun Sen group is still following the Vietnamese game. However, as long as Vietnam does not relinquish its policy of aggression and the Hun Sen group is still practicing the game concocted by the Vietnamese, peace can never be restored to Cambodia, rain or shine.

We, the noncommunist resistance movement, have carried on the struggle for peace with justice, that is a peace within the framework of independence. We can in no way accept a bogus peace donated by Vietnam that is placed in Vietnam's grasp.

'Frequently Mined' Railway To Reopen

BK1505061091 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0421 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK May 15—The Phnom Penh-Kompong Som railway line is due to be reopened soon after a period of suspension due to the destruction of parts of the railway by the Khmer bandits during their harassments in Kampot Province early this year.

The railway was frequently mined by the bandits early this year in Kampot Province, 150 km from Phnom Penh to Kompong Som.

The Railway Transportation Company of Phnom Penh said it planned to buy more wagons from India to replace the old and ravaged ones.

Moreover, one locomotive would be sent here from the Federative Republic of Czechoslovakia soon.

The Phnom Penh-Kompong Som railway line has been suspended since October last year when the Khmer bandits ambushed a passenger train, killing or injuring dozens of civilians.

Thailand-Border Market To Open 15 Jun

BK1505070091 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] Poipet is the border pass between the State of Cambodia and the Kingdom of Thailand in the northwest part of the country 48 km west of Sereisaophoan District.

The economic committee of the Poipet-Sereisaophoan Pass area is currently making gradual preparations for building a market opposite the railway station. The Poipet market is 171 meters long by 147 meters and will be opened for people to trade in import and export goods on 15 June 1991.

In the construction plan, Poipet market will have 1,008 stalls with 744 shophouses built around it to serve traders' needs.

Indonesia

CSFR Prime Minister Arrives for Visit

BK1405102391 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Prime Minister Marian Calfa of the CSFR, accompanied by his wife, arrived in Jakarta this morning for a four-day visit to Indonesia. Foreign Minister Ali Alatas and his wife were at the Halim Perdanakusumah Airport to greet the guests.

President and Mrs. Suharto met the prime minister of the CSFR at an official welcoming ceremony held at Merdeka Presidential Palace, Jakarta. The national anthems of the two countries were played, accompanied by a 19-gun salute.

Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono, several cabinet ministers, and House Speaker Kharis Suhud as well as heads of diplomatic missions from friendly countries were also present at the welcoming ceremony this morning.

President Suharto and Prime Minister Marian Calfa will hold talks at Merdeka Presidential Palace tomorrow. The Czech and Slovak guests will also meet Mines and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita and Minister of State for Research and Technology Professor B.J. Habibie.

President and Mrs. Suharto will host a state banquet for Prime Minister Marian Calfa and his wife at the State Palace tonight.

While in Indonesia, the guests will also be visiting Bali.

Suharto Holds State Banquet

BK1505033591 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] President Suharto expressed appreciation for the struggle of the CSFR Government and people in their efforts to peacefully return to democratic life and develop their state economy. According to the head of state, the reform effected to the political and economic structure of the country will have a longlasting effect on the people's quality of life and sense of human dignity, and will reaffirm the stability of an independent race.

President Suharto said this in his speech at a banquet hosted in honor of visiting CSFR Prime Minister Marian Calfa and his wife, Jirina, at the State Palace last night.

The head of state expressed the hope that this first visit by the CSFR head of government will facilitate the development of new bilateral cooperation in various fields. On the occasion, President Suharto also touched on bilateral relations so far and the possibility of further development in the future.

[Begin Suharto recording] I am very pleased that the friendly relations and cooperation between our two countries and peoples are based on mutual respect for the sovereignty of each other's country, non-interference in internal affairs, and the determination to promote bilateral cooperation for mutual benefit.

The diplomatic ties and direct trade links between our two countries so far have shown that there is great potential for further development. If we exploit this potential widely, the ties will strengthen and the development needs of both countries will be met. I believe that the talks and exchange of views that will take place between us will bring deeper mutual understanding. In that manner, we will be able to promote closer bilateral relations, especially in the fields of economy and trade, so that we will have greater advantages for the welfare and prosperity of the peoples in the two countries. [end recording]

During the state banquet, President Suharto also explained to Premier Marian Calfa about the implementation of development plans in Indonesia in efforts to create a progressive, prosperous, and just society based on the Pancasila ideology. The head of state also spoke about the foreign policy adopted by Indonesia as mandated by the 1945 basic Constitution.

Meanwhile, in his reply speech, CSFR Prime Minister Marian Calfa said that his visit to Indonesia, during his first tour of the Asian countries, is aimed at witnessing the success of Indonesia's development program. It is also aimed at observing the development of mutually beneficial bilateral cooperation.

According to the CSFR guest, the potential for new openings gives hope for the prospects for bilateral cooperation. He is of the opinion that dynamic economic cooperation will form a good base for the promotion of better relations between the CSFR and Indonesia. Contacts can also be enhanced through culture, education, and sports.

Present at the state banquet were Vice President and Mrs. Sudharmono, several cabinet ministers, the Armed Forces chief, and heads of government institutions. The ceremony was preceded by an exchange of souvenirs between President and Mrs. Suharto and Premier Marian Calfa and Mrs. Jirina Calfa.

According to schedule, the CSFR premier will hold formal talks with President Suharto at Merdeka Presidential Palace today.

Government To Build Nuclear Power Plant

BK1405124691 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Indonesia's first nuclear-powered electricity plant will be built on Java around 2001. Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita disclosed the planned construction of the nuclear-powered electricity plant to a New Zealand parliamentary delegation led by Robin Grey, now on an official visit to Indonesia.

Minister Ginanjar reiterated that the government would build nuclear-powered electricity plants due to Indonesia's depleting oil and gas reserves, particularly in the early 2000s. Beginning the 21st century, Indonesia will build a nuclear-powered electricity plant every two years to meet the growing electricity needs of industries as well as households in the country.

Cooperative Bank Gets Loan From Conglomerate

BK1105020091 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 2 May 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta (JP)—The financial crisis faced by the country's only cooperative bank, Bukopin [Indonesian Cooperative Bank], because of the large amount of bad debts will ease in the near future with the injection of fresh money from cooperatives and the Salim Group, says Cooperatives Minister Bustanil Arifin.

"Cooperatives holding shares in Bukopin have agreed to provide a total subordinated loan of Rp 20 billion [rupiah] (US $10.3 million) with an interest rate of six percent a year," he told reporters before a limited cabinet meeting on the economy here yesterday.

Bustanil, who is also chairman of Bukopin's advisory board, said that a number of soybean cooperatives had also agreed to join the bank by paying total equity capital of about Rp 6 billion this month.

He said that the Salim Group, which is controlled by business tycoon Liem Sioe Liong, had also voluntarily offered Bukopin a loan of Rp 15 billion carrying an interest rate of six percent a year.

The Salim Group owns PT [Limited Company] Bogasari, a flour company procuring raw materials from the National Logistic Agency (Bulog), which is chaired by Bustanil.

Bustanil said that the Salim Group would allow Bukopin to use its loan for three years, which could be extended by another two years.

"The Salim Group can provide more money if Bukopin needs it," he said.

He said Bulog's distribution agents had also expressed willingness to provide a loan of Rp 10 billion with an interest rate of six percent a year for Bukopin.

The collection of about Rp 51 billion in fresh money from the cooperatives, the Salim Group and Bulog's distribution agents would help ease Bukopin's financial crisis caused by the poor quality of loans amounting to about Rp 185 billion, he said.

He explained that of the bad loans of Rp 185 billion, Rp 39 billion was owed by cooperatives and the other Rp 146 billion by private companies.

"We expect that we will be able to recover Rp 24 billion of the loans owed by the cooperatives and Rp 80 billion of those owed by the private companies," he said, adding that Rp 15 billion of the cooperatives' loans and Rp 66 billion of the private firms' loans apparently would not be able to be recovered.

Bustanil acknowledged that all this meant that Bukopin still would not be able to overcome all the difficulties caused by the large amount of bad debts.

We, therefore, continue appealing to Bank Indonesia (the central bank) to give a hand for the sake of sound operation of Bukopin," he said.

Minister of Finance J.B. Sumarlin said last month that the government would not inject fresh capital into Bukopin.

Minister Discloses Annual Debt Repayment Amount

BK1405162191 Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 3 May 91 p 11

[Excerpt] Bandarlampung, KOMPAS—Indonesia has no difficulty in repaying its overseas debts because the loans have been fully utilized for development programs and public interests. "We have benefitted from such loans and are able to repay an annual installment of more than $7 billion to our creditors," said Coordinating Minister for Economics, Finance, Industry, and Development Supervision Radius Prawiro at a meeting of the Indonesian Plenary Council of Churches in Bandarlampung on Wednesday (1 May). He added: "The amount already includes the interest".

Replying to a question by a meeting participant, the minister stressed that the younger generation need not worry about the debts because the government will certainly be able to repay them, which consist of soft loans with an annual interest ranging from 2 to 2.5 percent. These loans are to be repaid within a period of 20 to 30 years.

The minister noted the country can easily repay the installment because such overseas loans have been used to finance infrastructure projects, such as highways and bridges, which have in turn facilitated economic growth, exportation and importation of goods, tax collection, and foreign currency earnings. [passage omitted]

Laos

Conference on Agriculture, Forestry Work Opens

BK1405115291 Vientiane KPL in English 0913 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Vientiane, May 14 (KPL)—The 1991 annual conference on agriculture and forestry opened here yesterday with the participation of over 100 technicians in the Ministry of Agriculture and forestry and from provincial agriculture services.

Foreign experts and representatives of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA), the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB), the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteer (JOCV), the non governmental organisation for international development and solidarity (CIDSE), Mennonites, Quakers, and the European Economic Community (EEC) were also present.

At the inauguration ceremony, Minister Inkong Mahavong of agriculture and forestry pointed to some past achievements in the national development of agriculture and forestry, in particular the foodstuff production amounting to 1.4 - 1.5 million tons per year if the weather is normal. He also noted that produce from crops and industrial trees, animal husbandry and veterinary, the support for production yielded satisfactory results.

His remarks on forestry work indicated that the ministry in collaboration with local administrations launched forestry inventories and management as a basis for the eventual efficient forestry extraction and preservation.

In collaboration with the provincial administration of Luang Prabang, a pilot project for the curbing of swidden cultivation and the introduction of fixed farming to hilltribe farmers was being executed.

Concerning the shortcomings and weak points, Mr. Inkong Mahavong said that the resolutions of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee on the transformation of the subsistent agriculture to the agricultural production for marketing were not yet materialized thoroughly. Therefore, the subsistent agricultural production still played its role. Additionally, policies of agricultural incentives, investement and their management were not clearly defined and effectively pursued.

The workshop will last five days.

Philippines

Reportage on Honasan, Rebels' Impending Surrender

Surrender Called Military Propaganda

HK1305134991 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] There has been skepticism about reports regarding the surrender of renegade Colonel Gringo Honasan and other military rebel leaders. A source said reports claiming that the Reform the Armed Forces Movement-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union [RAM-SFP-YOU] have sent out surrender feelers are mere propaganda by the Armed Forces of the Philipines. Some people from the underground movement said the military rebels will not surrender. Since the reported surrender by Colonel Honasan, Navy Commodore Domingo Calajate, and Lieutenant Colonel Red Kapunan, the military rebels' group has been handing out t-shirts bearing the slogan: Our dreams shall never die. The t-shirts bore the signature of Colonel Gringo Honasan, Commodore Calajate, Lieutenant Colonel Kapunan, Navy Captain Felix Turingan, and other RAM-SFP-YOU leaders. Other signatories were Brigadier General Jose Comendador, Colonel Billy Bibit, and former Cagayan Governor Rodolfo Aguinaldo.

'Ready To Talk'; Not Surrender

HK1505075591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Military rebel leaders today announced they are prepared to talk with the government, but denied they are planning to surrender. Renegade Colonel Gregorio Honasan and former Navy Commodore Domingo Calajate said recently published reports quoting defense chief Fidel Ramos as saying that they will surrender are only gimmicks. Honasan and Calajate said they are ready to hold a dialogue on issues concerning the national interest but will not talk to groups or individuals who have ulterior motives in that they alone will benefit from the talks and not the nation as a whole.

House Speaker Favors Amnesty for Armed 'Rebels'

HK1405083591 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 May 19 pp 1, 22

[Text] Speaker Ramon V. Mitra Jr. said yesterday he favors amnesty for military rightist rebels, Communist insurgents, and Muslim secessionists in a new effort to achieve national unity.

Articulating the view of a multipartisan majority in the House, Mitra stressed the urgency of getting the armed groups fighting of the government into the political and social community, in the context of the Constitution.

He disclosed that talks were going on between former Army lieutenant colonel Gregorio Honasan, military rebel leader and his henchmen, on one hand, and House Sergeant-at-Arms Serapio Taccad, a retired commodore.

Assisting Taccad, said Mitra, is Lt. Col. Eric Aurelio, a military rebel now working in the House in custody of Mitra. Both are in touch with former Commodore Domingo Calajate, who has recently been reported to have replaced Honasan as leader of the rebel Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM).

Mitra has recruited Aurelio in his staff, vouching for his good conduct, which the former rebel demonstrated by returning to military custody after having been released to attend the funeral of his father in the United States recently.

"He is advising me on possible legislation to root out grievances, particularly of young military officers against the current political system," said Mitra of Aurelio, who took part in the December, 1989 coup d'etat, the bloodiest of the coups which almost toppled the Aquino government.

Mitra said the government "should give priority to moves to bring the alienated sectors of society to the fold of the government. We should give them a chance to air their grievances and appeal for democratic reforms."

"I am confident Commodore Taccad and colonel Aurelio could persuade Honasan, through Calajate, to allow us to heed their grievances," said Mitra. Taccad is senior to both Calajate and Aurelio at the Philippine Military Academy.

Honasan has a P5 [peso]-million prize on his head, while the government offers P1-million each for the capture of Calajate and three other rightist rebel leaders.

The House initiative has opened a new surrender channel, simultaneous to feelers received by Lt. Gen. Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces chief of staff.

Rep. Arturo Borjal (disabled sector) [as published] said amnesty must be granted should the rebels surrender unconditionally and pledge allegiance to the government.

He said the rebels must agree to submit themselves to court charges relating to the death of innocent civilians and soldiers, and the wounding of hundreds of others, and the damage to property resulting from the six aborted coups against the Aquino government.

Rep. Jose de Venecia (LDP [Struggle of Philippine Democrats], Pangasinan), chairman of the House foreign affairs committee, Rep. Gualberto Lumauig (LDP, Ifugao), committee vice chairman, and Rep. Consuelo Puyat Reyes (LDP, Makati) said the nation would now be close to full attainment of the status of a newly-industrialized country had the national effort not been pulled back by the coups.

Rep. Alberto Lopez (LP [Liberal Party], Iloilo) and Rep. Renato Dragon (LDP, Cavite) said general amnesty will foster public order and safety and spur tourism.

The lawmakers noted that the relatively long condition of peace after the last coup has precipitated a 90-percent room occupancy of hotels nationwide.

Rep. Prospero Nograles (LDP, Davao) said national reconciliation has been the battlecry of the administration, so that a government policy to forgive and forget will preempt various ideologies and politics of the rebels.

Rep. Rodolfo Albano (KBL [New Society Movement], Isabela) called on the rebels to abandon their arms and take part in the 1991 elections by supporting the candidates they believe would espouse their cause against the system.

But Assistant Majority Floor Leader Raul Roco (LDP, Camarines Sur) and Reps. Venancio Garduce (LDP, Samar) and Gregorio Andolana (LDP, North Cotabato) disapproved amnesty.

Roco said the rebels should be submitted to court martial and their cases be elevated for final political judgment by the Commander-in-Chief.

Garduce and Andolana, both of the House "Progressive Bloc," cited the Constitution which states that the Executive Department cannot unilaterally grant amnesty to rebels without congressional concurrence.

In another development, Rep. Charito Plaza (LDP, Agusan del Norte), a lieutenant colonel in the reserve force, filed a resolution asking President Aquino to grant a general amnesty to all rebels as a "sine qua non" to unity and genuine reconciliation.

Communist Insurgents Want Peace Talks Overseas

HK1405083991 Quezon City MALAYA in English 26 Apr 91 p 2

[By Cris Larano]

[Text] Communist insurgents are willing to hold preliminary talks for peace negotiations in the country, but are insisting that formal talks be held abroad, Sen Wigberto Tanada (Ind) said the other day.

"They are ready to conduct peace negotiations but have insisted that talks be held overseas for security and other reasons," Tanada said. "However, they are amenable to holding preliminary talks here, although discretely, no media coverage."

Tanada, who heads peace advocates negotiating with government for a peaceful solution to the 20-year insurgency, flew to the Netherlands last Holy Week break along with other members of his group to talk with Communist Party head Jose Ma Sison and National Democratic Front secretary-general Luis Jalandoni.

He said the leftist leaders "did not set any precondition to holding direct talks" with the Aquino government, but has urged the administration to order a review of the cases of political detainees "so that they can be allowed to post bail."

The Supreme Court is currently reviewing the cases of political detainees for possible grant of right to bail.

"If they can allow someone accused of rebellion like Sen Juan Ponce Enrile (NP) [Nacionalista Party] to post bail, why can they not allow other detainees accused of lesser offenses?" Tanada quoted Sison and Jalandoni as saying.

Tanada said they have forwarded to the government's special Cabinet committee for peace the proposal of the leftist leaders. He however, refused to disclose the details.

Asked if the CPP [Communist Party of the Philippines] leaders still demand the withdrawal of the U.S. bases, Tanada said they did and had even offered to call for a national ceasefire.

"They are willing to call for a national ceasefire if the U.S. bases are pulled out," he said.

Senator Criticizes Rejection of Cease-Fire Plan

HK1305133191 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0900 GMT 13 May 91

[By Restie de Quiros]

[Text] Senator Wigberto Tanada criticized Armed Forces chief of staff, Lieutenant General Lisandro Abadia, for rejecting a proposal by the New People's Army to declare a nationwide cease-fire if no military bases treaty is signed by President Aquino. According to Tanada, Abadia ruined efforts by heterogeneous peace advocates headed by Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon for a peace process. At the same time, Tanada said Drilon has to explain to the peace advocates that Abadia's statement was his own position and not that of the government. Tanada supported the call by the National Democratic Front for a nationwide unilateral cease-fire if the president does not ratify and approve a bases treaty. Tanada even urged the government for the immediate declaration of a cease-fire nationwide as the first step towards attaining peace throughout the country.

Accord Defines Roles for Armed Forces, Police

HK1405081391 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 14 May 91 pp 1, 26

[By Emily R. Pena]

[Text] The Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) and the Department of National Defense (DND) signed yesterday a memorandum of agreement which delineates their respective roles in the preservation of the nation's external and internal security.

The accord was signed by Local Governments Secretary Luis T. Santos and Defense chief Fidel V. Ramos during the first meeting of the DILG special oversight committee at the Camp Crame multi-purpose center in Quezon City.

The agreement states that during the 24-month transition period, the Philippine National Police (PNP) has the primary responsibility over law enforcement and public safety, while the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) shall continue discharging its present role of preserving both the internal and external security of the state.

After this period, the AFP shall be responsible for preserving external security and the PNP for internal security.

Santos said: "The PNP is very much prepared to assume the responsibility of preserving the internal security of the state."

But when serious threats to national security and public order escalate, the President may, upon the recommendation of the Peace and Order Council (POC), call upon the military to assume the primary role in preserving internal security. The police force shall assume a supportive role.

The PNP shall also continue to discharge its role iwth regards to law enforcement and other police functions.

During national emergencies, the AFP and the PNP are mandated to pool their resources together. The military, in times of disasters and calamities, shall assume the primary role, except in areas where there are no AFP units.

The agreement further states that the military and the police's role shall be in accordance with the existing calamities and disaster plan being implemented by the government and shall be undertaken immediately upon the occurence of the emergency situation.

Meanwhile, Santos directed PNP Director General Cesar P. Nazareno to form a special committee which will formulate policies on the jurisdiction function between the PNP and the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI).

The move was designed to avoid conflict of operation between the two law enforcement agencies, he added.

Foreign Investments Rise in First Quarter

HK1305115191 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 13 May 91 pp 1, 6

[By Mary Jane O. Llanes]

[Text] If you think the country is suffering from an inexorable dearth of foreign capital—at least that has been the Philippines' image over the past several months—then look at what really happened after that disturbing war in the Gulf.

Foreign capital infusion into local businesses for the first quarter of the year rose to close the period in a positive note against its year ago level—a slight 0.6% to P1.67 billion [peso].

This, notwithstanding the continuing uncertainties in the local scene.

And if you still are not convinced, then look at these figures; for the first time in three months since the war started, foreign investments posted a 37.7% rise to P431.8 million in March. The increase was already an astounding progress from the results attained in the first two months of the year, a slight 14.5% climb and a hefty 62% drop, respectively.

More importantly, foreign investments for the month consisted mainly of cash infusion amounting to P230.8 million representing 53.4% of the total.

The rest were equities raised through offset of liabilities totalling P5.2 million and debt-to-equity swap.

However, the amount poured for the period was still way, way behind the record P1.007 billion registered in June of 1989 when the confidence in the economy was on the rise.

Economists believe that foreign institutions are starting to look again to the Philippines for possible investment plans after writing off the idea for a while on what was perceived to be a risky undertaking given the unstable economic and political scenario in the country.

These institutions, they said, are positioning for a change in the country's administration by 1992 where policy changes are expected to take effect.

Meanwhile, total corporate investments, including those poured in by Filipino nationals, for the first quarter of the year, slipped by 17.4% to P5.13 billion against the same period last year. Month-on-month, composite investment in corporations was higher by 11.5% to P1.33 billion.

Despite this, new businesses dropped by 2.6% to 1,669. "As the Gulf War ended in the last days of February, new investors must have assumed a wait-and-see attitude as the 9% imposed import levy which is looked upon as burden to both business and consumers, stirred up controversy among economic managers on whether to reduce it or not and for how long," an analyst at the SEC [Securities and Exchange Commission] investment and research department said.

Expansion

Business expansion, an indication of confidence in the economy, went up by a slight 7.9% to P186.3 million for March.

"The successful resolution of the Gulf war, the anticipation of new money from the IMF, the gradual decline of interest rates perhaps chipped away some of the uncertainties that clouded domestic investments. Businessmen made certain positionings, it seemed," an SEC analyst said.

Among the industries, the capital-intensive manufacturing sector took in the most amount of capital hikes amounting to P350.8 million in March.

Analysts believe the imposition of the import levy necessitated additional capital to "cope up with further increase of machineries and equipment to be used in the production of goods."

But on a quarterly basis, capital increases slid 7.6% to P3.4 billion from the P3.7 billion posted in the same period last year.

Thailand

Exporters 'Gravely Concerned' on U.S. Decision

BK1505022191 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 May 91 pp 19, 30

[Text] Thailand has asked the United States what decision it will make if Thai exports of some specific limit garments reach the quotas agreed on by both sides at last month's negotiations in Washington.

Thailand and the US achieved a major breakthrough in textile negotiations by setting quotas on 30 of specific limit (SL) garment items last month.

But Thai garment exporters were concerned because the export volumes of some SL items shipped to the US were higher than what was agreed on, an informed source in the Thai Garment Manufacturers Association said yesterday.

Under the previous Thai-US textile agreement, which expired in 1988, Thai garment exports were divided into specific limit (SL) items, controlled by quotas, and non-specific limit (NSL) categories, which were quota free. But all exports were limited by an aggregate quota.

The source said Thai exporters were gravely concerned the US may impose a unilateral action when the exports of some SL categories from Thailand exceed the agreed volume, or impose quotas under Article 3 of the Multi-Fibre Arrangement, which may damage the exports.

The exporters asked the Foreign Trade Department to seek the US' opinion on the matter.

At the ninth-round Thai-US talks on textile negotiations in Washington last month, both sides shifted the focus of discussion to specific limits on a number of categories in Group 2, or apparel, instead of focusing on overall aggregate limits, which had been a major stumbling block at previous rounds of textile talks.

Minister Phaichit on U.S. Trade Actions

BK1505092691 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] The country's economy has been well structured and built on a solid base. This is confirmed and amply proven by the trends maintained during the past three months, according to Minister of the Prime Minister's Office Phaichit Uathawikun.

Minister Phaichit further pointed out in an interview that the retaliatory measures mounted by the United States in accordance with the Special Chapter 301 of the Trade Act would not have far-reaching effects on Thailand as Thai exports are diversified, and those to be adversely affected by U.S. trade measures constitute only a fraction of the exports. Also the United States cannot retaliate more than the damages suffered on its side. There remain months for negotiations between the two sides, the minister mentioned.

Minister Phaichit expected the general elections to take place by the end of the year or early next year depending on the drafting of the new constitution. He hopes that all would go well and the time frame would apply. He emphasized that the interim government aims at fulfilling its responsibilities and pledges without aspiration for a future political role whatsoever.

Amaret Meets With Anan on Patent Stance

BK1505023391 Bangkok THE NATION in English 15 May 91 p B1

[By Atchara Phongwutthitham]

[Text] Commerce Minister Amaret Sila-on yesterday held an urgent meeting with the prime minister to clarify the country's stance on the continuing trade disputes with the United States.

"There is a need to get rid of the confusion and to strengthen our position," the minister said.

"The commerce ministry and officials from four other ministries are formulating a common national stand. We will have less chance of winning if we remain divided since the United States is putting heavy pressure on Thailand," Amaret added.

The talks between Amaret and Premier Anan Panyarachun also reportedly covered the criticism levelled at the Commerce Ministry over a letter the ministry sent to US Trade Representative (USTR) Carla Hills spelling out the country's proposed commitments in regard to intellectual property.

The USTR recently placed Thailand on its "foreign country priority watchlist", citing a lack of intellectual property rights protection under Section 301 of the US Trade Act.

As a result, Thai exports will be exposed to trade retaliation if no agreement can be reached within the next seven months.

Amaret said the critics of the Commerce Ministry's policy had not been fully informed and that their outcries had caused the public to panic and threatened to undermine the negotiations.

He said he would stop talking about the trade dispute on the ground that "it would benefit the United States more than Thailand".

The minister said the country is not as well-versed in trade negotiations as the United States which had conducted trade talks with more than 50 nations, compared with only a few in the case of Thailand.

He said the US was seeking to drive a wedge between the government and the public, which would weaken the country's position.

It is estimated that trade retaliation by the United States could cost the country up to Bt5 billion [baht] in foreign currency earnings.

—Uthai Sutsuk, permanent secretary for public health, has reiterated his ministry's opposition to moves to amend the patent law to include pharmaceutical products, Mukdawan Sakbun adds.

But he said that if it became necessary to amend the law, it should be done in such a way as to minimize the impact on the public.

"We do not want to see patent coverage for old drugs or manufacturers applying for patents in other countries or for those undergoing testing," he said after a meeting yesterday.

Uthai said public health officials were looking at alternative ways for the country to become more self sufficient by promoting the role of the private sector, the Government Pharmaceutical Organization and universities.

Former MPs From South Apply To Join NAP

BK1505020391 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 May 91 p 3

[Text] At least 20 former southern MPs [Members of Parliament] have applied to join the New Aspiration Party [NAP] of former military chief Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut to contest the next general election.

The NAP's southern election director, Wira Musikaphong, said members are expected to start revealing their new affiliation publicly next month.

Party sources said the former MPs involved include the Solidarity Party's former MPs in the South, at least two Social Action Party southern MPs, Niyom Kamhaeng and Thawisak Abdulbut, and one Phalang Tham Party former MP Komet Khwanmuang.

The sources said the NAP, because of its strong list of candidates, has become a new and major political rival of the Democrat Party, which dominated southern elections in the past.

Apart from the strong potential in the South, the NAP also hopes to gain support in the Northeast, which has been earmarked as its possible political base.

The NAP has assigned the Interior's former permanent secretary, Phisan Munlasatsathon, as its election director for the Northeast.

The sources said the NAP is expected to be joined in the election by several former SAP and Democrat MPs.

Mr Wira, who chaired a meeting of the NAP'S southern core yesterday, said that 1,000 members will disseminate party policy among southern residents.

The party will also organise meetings at village level in the South to develop party personnel.

Mr Wira said the NAP is ready for the general election and is not worried by the reported attempt by certain military groups to form political parties of their own.

Khukrit on Money Given to Montri for SAP

BK1305004791 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 May 91 p 1

[By Suwit Suwit-Sawat, Soemsuk Kasitpradit]

[Text] Former Social Action Party [SAP] Leader M.R. Khukrit Pramot has written to the Assets Investigation Committee certifying that he has been giving millions of baht to party secretary-general Montri Phongphanit to run the SAP, party sources revealed yesterday.

M.R. Khukrit said in his letter, addressed to committee chairman Gen Sit Chirarot, that he has "for a long period been giving one to two million baht at a time" to Mr Montri to administer the party since he was its secretary-general, sources said.

The letter would help defend Mr Montri, who has been found "unusually rich" by the committee appointed by the National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] to investigate alleged corruption by former politicians.

Sources said Mr Montri went to visit M.R. Khukrit at his house in Chiang Mai on Saturday and was given the letter which he took back with him to Bangkok. He is expected to reveal the contents of the letter to members of his faction in the party at a lunch meeting today to beat back pressure by other groups to oust him from the party leadership.

Other sources said Solidarity Party leader Narong Wongwan is likely to submit his resignation from the party at a meeting on May 24. Mr Narong is set to join the new military party being formed and would be made its leader. The tentative name of the new party is "Samakkhi Tham" (United Dharma), sources said.

Solidarity deputy party leaders Bunchu Rotchanasathian, Uthai Phimchaichon and Piyanat Watcharaphon strongly opposed the move since the new military party supposedly has the aim of backing Army Commander-in-Chief and NPKC vice-chairman Gen Suchinda Khraprayun as the next prime minister.

They refused to go with Mr Narong to the military party and will stay on and try to rebuild Solidarity.

Both the Social Action Party, the political powerhouse which has been in almost every government in the last decade, and Solidarity, the second largest party after Chart Thai, are now on the verge of collapsing into minute splinter parties.

SAP sources claim Mr Montri has refused calls to step down as secretary-general because of the assets probe. He said he can clear his property with the committee and now has the letter from M.R. Khukrit to clear his cash.

Sources said Mr Montri also wants to take over the party leadership from Thongyot Chittawira, the acting party leader, and to give his current post to Prayut Siriphanit, at a party assembly to be called soon.

Because of this the "Sangsan" (Creative) faction of the SAP under Surat Osathanukhro, Subin Pinkhayan, Mai Sirinawakun and Udon Tantisunthon, which has been engaged in a bitter conflict with him, announced on Friday during the birthday party of Mr Surat that they would form their own "Prachathippatai" (Democracy) Party to contest the next general election.

The faction had earlier wanted to stay with the SAP but Mr Montri's reputation has been severely damaged by the investigation and the party would be an easy target at the polls.

Another faction under Amnuai Yotsuk (Chiang Mai), including Warin Limsakdakun (Chiang Mai), Tavachwong na Chiang Mai (Chiang Mai), Thongyot Chittawira (Ranong), as well as independents like Buaphrom Thirakanlayanaphan (Chaiyaphum), Prasop Butsarakham (Udon Thani), and Niyom Kamhaeng (Nakhon Si Thammarat), had been hoping for Gen Thianchai Sirisamphan to quit Ratsadon and take up the SAP party leader's post. Gen Thianchai has insisted he will give up politics altogether.

The Amnuai and independent factions are now also likely to leave the SAP but have not yet decided where to go. The choices are Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut's New Aspiration Party or Mr Surat's Democracy Party, sources said.

The last SAP faction under Mr Santi Chaiwirattana, including Dr Prasit Chaiwirattana, Kamsung Praphakonkaeorat and Wutthichai Sanguanwongchai, all from Chaiyaphum Province, also will not stay with the SAP because Mr Montri had ousted its leader, Mr Santi, from the Cabinet before the coup. They may join Gen Chawalit, the new military party or Mr Surat.

"Because of this, the SAP may become a party with less than 10 MPs [Members of Parliament] at the next poll," one source in the party said.

Ssources in Solidarity said that party is not in much better shape. Mr Narong and party secretary-general Chaloemphan Siwikon are on one side and Mr Bunchu and Mr Uthai are on the other. But while Mr Narong, who is also being investigated by the assets committee, wants to join the military party, Mr Chaloemphan is undecided about his future and may give up politics altogether.

Mr Bunchu may become Solidarity leader instead, while Mr Uthai could take up Mr Chaloemphan's post.

Former northern MPs under Mr Narong would go with him to the military party but those under Mr Chaloemphan are largely split. The eight Muslim MPs are set to join Gen Chawalit's party while key southern political figure Wira Musikaphong has already done so and is in charge of New Aspiation campaign in the South.

Constitution Committee Agrees on Speaker Position

BK1405013891 Bangkok THE NATION in English 14 May 91 p A2

[Text] The speaker of the next House of Representatives will also assume the post of president of Parliament, the panel drafting the new Constitution agreed yesterday. The panel also agreed to grant parliamentary immunity to broadcasters of parliamentary sessions against lawsuits.

Likhit Thirawekin, deputy spokesman of the committee, said MPs, [Members of Parliament] however, will not be covered by the proposed immunity.

Likhit said the decision of the panel to make House speaker the Parliament president was based on the popular demand by politicians that an elected MP should be president of Parliament when there is a joint House session.

Royal Decree Awards Military Chiefs Top Ranks

BK1505102091 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 15 May 91 p 16

[Prime Minister's Office announcement on royal decree on military ranks; announced on 9 April]

[Text] There has been an issuance of a Royal Decree bestowing military ranks as following:

1. General Suchinda Khraprayun to the concurrent ranks of admiral and air chief marshal;

2. Admiral Praphat Kritsanachan to the concurrent ranks of general and air chief marshal;

3. Air Chief Marshal Kaset Rotchananin to the concurrent ranks of general and admiral.

The announcement takes effect as of 28 March 1991
Announced on 9 April 1991
Countersigned: Anan Panyarachun, prime minister

Reportage on Foreign Minister's Visit to PRC

WA1405180691

For reportage on the visit to the PRC by Foreign Minister Asa Sarasin and General Kaset Rotchananin, commander in chief of the Royal Thai Air Force, including reports of their meetings with PRC Foreign Minister Qian Qichen and General Wang Hai, People's Liberation Army Air Force commander, please see the Southeast Asia & Pacific section of the 14 May China DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Vietnam

Nguyen Van Linh Returns From Soviet Union

BK1405164191 Hanoi VNA in English 1351 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 14—General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Nguyen Van Linh returned here today after a five-day working visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

He was welcomed back by Vo Chi Cong, Politburo member of the CPV Central Committee and State Council President; Do Muoi, Politburo member of the CPV Central Committee and Chairman of the Council of Ministers; Pham Van Dong, advisor to the CPV Central Committee; and a number of senior Vietnamese party and state officials.

Soviet charge d'affaires I.A Voronin was on hand to greet the Vietnamese leader.

French National Arrested; No Comment Issued

BK1105135691 Hong Kong AFP in English 1146 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Hanoi, May 11 (AFP)—The French Embassy here refused to comment Saturday on reports that a French national had been arrested for smuggling money and documents from exiled dissidents to people in Vietnam.

"We are dealing with this matter," a French diplomat said without giving any details.

Press reports in Hanoi, quoting a counter-espionage official, had said that a French resident named Bernard had been detained for trying to pass money and documents from leading dissident Bui Tin, who is currently in Paris, to people inside the country.

Informed sources in Paris said the detainee was French television producer Bernard Gesbert, 58, who had been visiting Vietnam to prepare a film script.

Mr. Gesbert has also been accused of trying to produce a film "falsely portraying the situation in Vietnam," the press reports said.

Expelled From Country

BK1505014791 Hanoi VNA in English 1354 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 14—Bernard Gesbert, a French national who entered Vietnam as a tourist, used forged papers for travelling and making films without permit aimed at disrupting the situation in Vietnam.

Besides, Bernard had smuggled into Vietnam letters and documents by Vietnamese reactionaries living abroad.

The Vietnamese investigative organ has arrested Bernard with full evidence. Bernard pleaded guilty, acknowledging that his activities had violated Vietnamese law. He pledged not to repeat his wrongdoings and asked for leniency.

Prompted by the Vietnamese states's humane policy and goodwill, and considering the relations between Vietnam and France and the request of the French ambassador to Vietnam, the Immigration Department of the Ministry of the Interior of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has decided to expel Bernard from Vietnam on May 15,1991.

Tran Trong Tan Ideology Article Published

Part I

BK0905134791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 6 May 91

["Part I" of article by Tran Trong Tan, head of the party Central Committee Department of Ideology and Culture: "Some Ideological Issues To Be Clarified," published in the April issue of TAP CHI TUYEN TRUYEN (PROPAGANDA REVIEW)]

[Text] As you comrades are already well aware, communist parties in some countries did not worship Marxism-Leninism any longer but merely accepted some legacies of the Marxist-Leninist and Engels doctrines. The opposition forces, however, said Marxism-Leninism is now obsolete.

The Communist party of Vietnam [CPV], nevertheless, still considers Marxism-Leninism a compass for its activities and rejects attaching importance only to some legacies of the doctrine. Acceptance of some legacies of Marxism-Leninism means that one considers some of the Marxist-Leninist theories still correct and the rest obsolete. On the contrary, if one considers Marxism-Leninism a compass for his activities, he still holds that the fundamental theories of Marx, Engels, and Lenin are correct. We should carefully study and analyze, in a scientific fashion, the rejection of this doctrine.

Those who rejected Marxism-Leninism contended that mankind's civilization has undergone three major stages: First is the agricultural civilization; second is industrial civilization, and third is a new civilization stage. Many argued, however, that the last civilization should be called the post-industrial civilization, while others said it should be an intelligent civilization stage in which the role of the intellectuals is a decisive one. Nonetheless, some said that although the new scientific-technological revolution is being carried out actively, it is still in the framework of the industrial civilization. Those who argue that we are now in the new civilization stage refer to the scientific-technological revolution which leads to the invention of things that do not exist by nature. This is the stage of the electronics, microwaves, electronic equipment, computer science, lethal weapons; the stage that biology has shifted to genetics; and the stage that belongs to new equipment, for instance, in the 21st century, machines made of ceramic and so forth.

The new civilization demands more pressing tasks for mankind. That is, they must strive to resolve the negative consequences caused by the industrial civilization that threaten the life of mankind on our planet. For instance, ozone in the atmosphere is reduced dramatically due to waste dumped into the environment by industrial factories. If nations do not take measures to resolve this, the greenhouse effect will be severe and mankind will be unable to live any longer. Moreover, the consequences of forest destruction are deteriorating to the extent that mankind will face a shortage of fresh water for drinking in the early part of the 21st century and so forth. The new civilization era will produce robots, including intelligent ones that can do translation work.

Many contend that Marx and Engels lived in the era of the industrial civilization and that their theories are now obsolete. They said, for instance, that when talking about the dialectical theory, one will refer to the application of opposition concepts to the society with class struggle, which exists no more. Normally, class conflict leads to class struggle, and the latter may culminate in war. However, at present most nations have lethal weapons, thus waging war is not their option. Marx wrote a doctrine on the exploitation of the labor surplus value of the bourgeoisie, but now robots have increasingly participated in production; as a result, capitalist exploitation, if it still exists, is aimed at the robots only. For this reason, they now question the validity of the doctrine on exploitation of surplus value. According to them, the current situation requires mankind to urgently cooperate with one another to resolve the vital issues for the whole planet, not only for one single nation, system, or class. As a result, a new era has emerged—an era of peaceful coexistence and cooperation. All governments, regardless whether capitalist or socialist, must cooperate with one another or they will face great danger.

The thesis that war is a continuation of a political struggle by a different means—be it with the use of nuclear or conventional weapons—has become outdated. According to these people, it is not that class differences are important and prominent but rather mankind's unification and unity. And as said above, they think that the theory of surplus value is no longer suitable. So is the theory of class and class struggle that led to proletarian dictatorship and that the historic role now no longer rests with the working class but with the intelligentsia. Marxism-Leninism has therefore become outdated. Marxism-Leninism which came into being almost a hundred years ago and which was only suited to the period of industrial civilization has become no longer suitable.

Is that what has happened in reality? It is true that in the new era there are new issues to be generalized for supplement to our theory, for instance, those issues of universal character? But it would be a big mistake if just because of this we think that class struggle no longer plays the role of a main driving force for social development and we eventually opt for leftist policies, thus giving in to our enemy.

In reality, the bourgeoisie in capitalist countries continues to remain firm in its stance. Even in the Soviet Union, some people thought that after several decades of socialist construction, class differences now no longer exist in society. They declared that the state of the Soviet Union has become a state of the entire people.

This idea came into being from previous party congresses and continued to be maintained until recently when CPSU Central Committee Deputy General Secretary Ivashko told the 31 January 1991 joint meeting of the CPSU Central Committee and the CPSU Central Committee Control Department that in the recent past, the party's reactions to those sabotage thoughts and actions in the economic, political, and spiritual domains had proved to be inappropriate at a time when attempts to humiliate the party and talk ill of Lenin and the October Revolution thinkings were increasingly growing crafty and insolent.

Comrade Polozkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Political Bureau and first secretary of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee put it more clearly that by pitting the common interests of mankind against those of the class and giving priority to universal values, we have done harm to socialist ideology. The diametrical harmony between the class character and the universal character has been infringed upon. We know that never can anyone represent mankind's common interests better than the working class. If we forget this fact and blot away class differences, we will deprive our people and our party members of their political weapon or the most important tool of their methodology.

At present in the Soviet Union, liberal or more precisely reactionary elements have cast off their democracy masks following their declaration that they will use anticommunism as an ideology. They are gathering under their banner the successors of those classes which have been overthrown while the anticommunist movement is now being whipped up by international capitalist forces.

In reality, in each country as well as in the world as a whole, so long as there are reactionary forces attempting to undermind socialism, reactionary forces must constantly heighten vigilance against the enemy's sabotage schemes and tricks. We should not understand the enemy in a simplistic sense. It should be remembered that after losing their ruling power, those antisocialist forces—still lingering around in culture, psychology, and social customs—are hatching a vengeful attempt. With a vengeful attempt, a class that is hostile to the people will, once conditions permit, react more fiercely. It should be further noted that this class is being backed by international reactionary forces. Therefore, Lenin once called for the working class to remain highly vigilant and to hate its enemy more than it is hated by its enemy if it is to triumph over the latter.

As far as the question of nuclear war is concerned, not only does the proletariat not want nuclear war but the bourgeoisie is also afraid of it and they do not want to plunge themselves into a war so they can die together. They want to remain alive but once still alive, they want to live among their own class. The bourgeoisie also want to avoid a nuclear war so it can continue to exist and to rule and exploit the working class.

It is not that without a nuclear war, mankind will become brothers and comrades. Thinking that there are no longer class differences and opposing classes is wrong and this will lead to a loss of vigilance against our very dangerous enemy.

As for the theory of surplus value, the bourgeoisie once said: I pay those who work for me adequately. I pay my workers even more than enough for them to raise their children. I enrich myself with the use of my own machinery. Marx attacked this argument by saying that machinery is also built by labor. Machinery is therefore called materialized labor and it is different from living labor—workers. The income of a capitalist boss is derived from what really belongs to the laboring people. Without men, machinery can in no way create surplus values. Nowadays, robots have been invented but regardless of how sophisticated a robot may be, it is merely a machine and can never replace men completely.

The historic role of the working class should be understood in the sense of its closeness with its contingent of intellectuals, with Marxist-Leninist theory, and with its main office staff being the communist party. The working class should not be seen simply as workers. Intellectuals themselves do not constitute a class. The class of intellectuals depends on whom they use their intellectual property to serve. If they serve feudalism, they will be feudalist intellectuals, if they serve the bourgeoisie, they will be bourgeois intellectuals, and if they serve the working class and the laboring people, they will be socialist intellectuals.

When the ruling class becomes outdated, the intellectuals of that class will be divided. A number of them will continue to be loyal to their former class and protect it. Another segment of them will detach itself from this class and side with the revolutionary class against its former class. The working class' intellectuals are originally detached from the ranks of the bourgeois intellectuals. Marx and Engels were great intellectuals. So was Lenin. As they all sided with the ranks of the working class, they were workers' intellectuals. From such a simple analysis, we find that Marxism-Leninism continues to be of guiding value for the working class and the laboring people to carry out a revolution to build a new society. Our party's persistent pursuit of Marxism-Leninism testifies to this fact.

As Marxism-Leninism was creatively applied by Uncle Ho in accordance with the situation in Vietnam, it has produced many successes of historic significance. At a time when the communist world was caught by a crisis, the commemoration of the birth centenary of Uncle Ho, a communist leader, was proposed by UNESCO and favorably responded to by many countries. Some countries like India held commemorative ceremonies for him even bigger than us. Dissertations by delegates from various countries at these ceremonies also show that they have had profound studies on Uncle Ho's thinking, ethics, and behaviors.

This time, in various draft documents of the seventh party congress, the issue of taking up and developing the ideological, ethical, and behavoral values of Ho Chi Minh are cited. Some people asked why don't we say Ho Chi Minh thoughts instead of the ideological values of Ho Chi Minh? Aren't the Ho Chi Minh thoughts of any value? Others asked why don't we straighforwardly say that Marxism, Engelsism, Leninism, and Ho Chi Minhism are the guiding torch for our party's activities? Then how should we solve this question in a satisfactory fashion? We will continue to discuss this question and weigh its pros and cons until the holding of the seventh party congress. After the congress, this issue will have to become a major subject of discussion in our study work.

Part II

BK1005101591 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 May 91

["Part II" of article by Tran Trong Tan, head of the party Central Committee Department of Ideology and Culture: "Some Ideological Issues To Be Clarified" published in the April issue of TAP CHI TUYEN TRUYEN (PROPAGANDA REVIEW)]

[Text] Regarding questions as to why we think that socialism is superior to capitalism, and whether it is right that socialism is now caught in a crisis of phases, theories, and models, Comrade Tran Trong Tan wrote:

Some people compared socialist society with capitalist society and found that socialism has nothing superior at all. Socialism is, according to them, inferior to capitalism in all respects. Looking at capitalist countries, they found that: First, scientific and technical findings are being promptly introduced into production and thus boosting production. Second, national and multinational shareholding companies have cropped up and private capitalist credit relations have ceased to exist. Third, social security funds have been set up and social welfare problems have partly been solved. For example, jobless workers are entitled to unemployment funds. Capitalism has therefore solved welfare problems better than socialism. Fourth, capitalism has built a law-governing state and citizens' democratic liberties are guaranteed by law.

Judging from these four aspects of a developed capitalist society, one may come up with different ideas: Some people think that this is a continued broadening of various socialist premises right within capitalism as was once said by Marx and Engels. Formerly, socialist premises in a capitalist society were heavy industry, the working class, the communist party, and trade unions. Now Marxism-Leninism has been added to these premises. A feudalist society may give birth to the mode of capitalist production. But a capitalist society can in no way give birth to socialism. Only socialist premises can develop in a capitalist society. Some people claim that these are not socialist premises but rather socialist factors. Others argue that they are not socialist factors but rather successes of socialism from within capitalism. These successes are made possible thanks to various factors, including the struggle of the working class at that time and the pressure exerted by the presence of the international socialist system. Some people hold that these premises are precisely socialism and nothing else. Socialism can be born from within capitalism and can cause the capitalist society concerned to gradually transform into socialism without needing a proletarian revolution or a class struggle. They contend that capitalism has developed to a new stage—the stage of social capitalism.

Our point is: The first condition for building a new society, namely a socialist society, is that the working class and the laboring people should secure power into their hands. The process of revolutionizing production means in a capitalist society has caused a bulk of workers to lose their jobs. The bourgeoisie has striven to maintain its unemployment force and has organized unemployment funds so as to create presssure to bear on a number of workers still on the payroll. If a worker still on the payroll engages in a strike, he will be threatened with dismissal as there are many unemployed workers waiting for being rehired.

The mode of capitalist production, which was initially introduced among workers, is now frightening away even the capitalists. The emergence of shareholding companies and the revolutionizing of production means in a capitalist society are conditions for the continued existence of that capitalist society. This is what Marx and Engels had already discovered and analyzed its consequences. Therefore, there is nothing new about this at all. Now that the bourgeoisie has been able to regulate its new scientific and technological revolution, its stature has increased more than ever before. Unlike previously when capitalists exploited both relative surplus values and absolute surplus values, now they are concentrating only on increasing their exploition of relative surplus values. With their higher exploitation-related income, the bourgeoisie has set aside part of its income for social welfare in order to ease class differences in society. This is to maintain the well-being of the capitalist society and not to help build socialism.

As far as citizens' democratic liberties are concerned, depending on the specific situation in each capitalist country, liberties are limited to a certain extent to prevent abuses and the danger of the capitalist regime concerned being overthrown.

The United States sent its troops to South Vietnam in order to fashion a U.S.-style democratic regime. But unlike in the United States where the communist party is allowed to operate, in South Vietnam they outlawed the communist party. Thus, to what extent democratic liberties are allowed will depend on the specific situation in each capitalist country concerned and on the basis of ensuring the political monopoly of the bourgeoisie instead of permitting unlimited democratic liberties. Earlier, in propaganda work, there was a drawback that we churned out one-sided propaganda. We blamed anything which was not good on the capitalist society and claimed anything which was good for socialist countries. Due to our one-sided propaganda, many people who had a chance to get in touch with the capitalist society could realize part of the bad things of that society. Because of their overconfidence in reforms, many socialist countries developed a tendency to negate all revolutionary gains and to see that they were inferior to capitalist countries in all respects. Both these two extremist tendencies are wrong.

Despite the fact that the level of their socioeconomic development is still low as compared to that in developed capitalist countries, socialist countries have, thanks to the system that allows the people to excercise control over the administration, developed the superiority of the new regime in the following aspects of work:

First, those who have had experience with the old regime under the imperialist, feudalist, or capitalist rule may realize that life under the new regime following the victory of the revolution clearly testifies to a change for the better in all respects.

Second, the people had had their own government under the party leadership and this government has organized a new society and introduced new policies that are backed up by the people and that help defeat all aggressor enemies. During their 14-year civil war, the Soviet people defeated a 14-imperialist country alliance that colluded with the in-country reactionaries. Afterwards, they again triumphed over the Germany-Italy-Japan alliance, thus saving mankind from the fascist catastrophe and creating conditions for the people in a number of European and Asian countries to rise up to regain power.

The Vietnamese people, with the party's correct domestic and foreign policy lines and with their revolutionary wisdom, have defeated the French and then the U.S. aggressors, and have thereby fulfilled their people's national democratic revolution and achieved national unification.

Third, in various socialist countries, many material-technical bases have been built and there have been greater cultural and social achievements as compared to those in the old regime. Starting off as an undeveloped capitalist country coupled with devastations caused by the civil war and the antifascist war, the Soviet Union has emerged as an industrialized superpower. It has served as a prop for the world peace movement and has given generous internationalist support, both materially and spiritually, to many countries which have either been liberated or are struggling to regain independence. Viewed from an historical angle in such an objective and scientific fashion, those superiorities mentioned above are undeniable.

In the process of building a new society in the socialist direction, besides what has been well done, in Vietnam, there are also things that have been incorrectly done. This is because we have failed to firmly grasp the law governing social development so we can creatively apply it in a country where the level of development in various aspects is still low and where the ills of plagiarism and voluntarism are prevalent.

Meanwhile, the system of capitalist countries—which has been in existence for several hundred years now and has already reached a high level of development—has been able to overcome its crisis and is continuing to make new steps forward in applying various findings of the scientific and technological revolution. We have failed to pay attention to studying the improvements attained by capitalist society in order to gain experience from it for our socialist construction.

After our independence was regained, we should have concentrated on seeking ways to exploit all potentials to develop production; enable the laboring people to go about their business freely; and study and select good points of the capitalist regime's management system for refining and then apply them in the building of a compact and effective socialist administration capable of governing society according to law, ensuring the true observance of all democratic liberties of citizens, and making the laboring people more enthusiastic in socialist construction.

We are wrong for having simplistically thought that to build socialism we should discard private ownership without taking into account our country's specific situation, and that the faster and numerically more we expand the state- and collectively-run economic sector, the quicker and more vigorous our advance to socialism will be. We have done this without taking into account production results and labor output.

With a new administration already in place, while claiming that this administration is of the people, by the people, and for the people, we have paid little attention to building a legislative system and have not been firm enough in fighting the ills of bureaucracy. This has led to the existence of an oversized state apparatus, thus exhausting the state budget. Not only has the state apparatus become oversized, but the mass organization apparatus has also swelled in number, and the people have thereby had to shoulder more burdens. This is because we have failed to profoundly understand and satisfactorily implement Uncle Ho's teachings: Independence will become meaningless if the people, after regaining national independence, cannot enjoy happiness.

At the sixth party congress, our party seriously criticized itself and came up with a comprehensive renovative line which calls for getting rid of the ills of plagiarism and voluntarism as they are at variance with Marxist-Leninist theory and with scientific socialism; for broadening democracy in various aspects of social life and developing the role of the National Assembly and other people-elected organs; and for paying attention to building the law, renovating the party's leadership procedures, and unleashing all production potentials through efforts to develop the commodity-based economy, promote the growth of various economic components as well as various forms of ownership, removing those obstacles that impede the growth of state enterprises, and gradually doing away with the situation where the system of all-people ownership cannot develop as it is claimed and where the duties and rights of individuals are not clearly defined, and the like.

The substance of our renovative line calls for respecting the law governing development of our society—a country with a low level of development—by caring for and meeting the people's desire to live in freedom and happiness and by correctly applying scientific socialism's ideas that advocate fighting plagiarism and voluntarism.

Carrying out renovation along this direction has achieved some initial results. Despite our great difficulties, we should not seek any excuse for our failure to promptly do away with numerous cases of negative phenomena that have still not been resolved. We should not compare the small initial results achieved in socialist construction by a country with such a low level of socioeconomic development as Vietnam with that of highly-developed capitalist countries with hundreds of years of development behind them. We should not raise doubts about the superiority of socialism as well as about those socialist goals already laid down in various draft documents of the seventh party congress by basing our judgement merely on the better side of capitalist society without taking into account its social differences, its social injustices, and its social vices.

If we can carry out scientific socialism in accordance with its theory and with Uncle Ho's teachings, its attractive power will definitely develop much greater than that of capitalism. There is nothing for us to doubt about the goals of socialism.

Part III

BK1005133791 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 May 91

[Last part of 3-part article by Tran Trong Tan, head of the party Central Committee Department of Ideology and Culture: "Some Ideological Issues To Be Clarified," published in the April 1991 Issue of TAP CHI TUYEN TRUYEN (PROPAGANDA REVIEW)]

[Text] It has been said usually that a backward country can advance to socialism bypassing the stage of capitalist development, but with the assistance of an advanced socialist country as one of the essential conditions. Since our troops no longer receive Soviet aid as they used to, can we build socialism? To answer this question, Comrade Tran Trong Tan wrote: We should remember that in 1920 the Soviet Union was the sole socialist country. When Lenin referred to the assistance of the proletariat in advanced countries, he meant that parties in mother countries should be very concerned with assisting the parties in colonies and, particularly, should motivate those troops who once participated in suppressing the liberation movements in colonies. This meant that there should be coordination among the revolutionary movements in colonies and assistance from the proletariat in mother countries. If the proletariat in advanced countries assists, backward countries can advance to the Soviet regime and through definite stages of development to socialism without having to go through the stage of capitalist development.

The condition for revolution in a backward country to triumph and advance to communism is having the assistance of the proletariat in advanced countries, which mainly involves action to train cadres, build the party, and oppose the sending of troops from mother countries to suppress the revolution in colonies. These words of Lenin do not indicate that the Soviet Union must give economic subsidies to other countries and consider it a condition for backward countries to advance to socialism, bypassing the stage of capitalist development.

However, the Soviet Union has in fact helped us build many major projects as a non-subsidizing form of aid. Henceforth, the Soviet Union will no longer do this but will cooperate with us in trade on the principle of mutual benefit to exploit the world market and to pay with hard currency. This statement by the Soviet Union has caused difficulties for us in the immediate future but we agreed to it. Our country could not withstand the policy of subsidization. Why should we demand that the Soviet Union grant international subisidies to other countries? How could the Soviet Union endure such demands?

The decisive condition for our country to advance to socialism depends on whether the leadership policy of our party is correct or not; whether or not the adopted steps, forms, and methods are suitable to realities in our society; whether or not they can develop strong support from the entire people; whether or not they can develop the strength of the nation and the era; whether or not we know that state and economic management will bring about some results; and whether or not we know how to secure the technological knowledge of the world in our country.

On this occasion, if we know how to develop self-reliance to thriftily build the country with all party members and the people, we can overcome all difficulties toward advancement. The achievements on the agricultural battlefront and in reducing the inflation rates testify mainly to correct leadership. It should be remembered that although the Soviet Union no longer provides subsidies like it did previously, and has shifted to trade for mutual benefit, we should not consider trade with the Soviet Union in the same manner as we consider trade with other capitalist countries. There is a qualitative difference here in that trade is made between two socialist countries. We consider the market in the Soviet Union and other socialist countries a traditional one.

The 1991 trade agreements with the Soviet Union stipulate that we sell consumer goods to the Soviet Union and we purchase strategic goods from the Soviet Union, which mainly include means of production. This is somewhat special and unlike trade relations with capitalist countries.

On this issue, we should also think of Yugoslavia and Albania. Yugoslavia could only build the people's democratic administration only by 1947. In 1948, [words indistinct] relations neither with the party nor with the state. However, the league of Yugoslav communists in one way or another overcame the difficulties [words indistinct]. The recent turmoil in Yugoslavia was a new historic juncture resulting from other causes but not because of a lack of Soviet international subsidies.

The population of Albania is 3.2 million people. Due to [words indistinct] previous confusion in its socialist international relations, finally there is only Vietnam. Yet it is the first socialist country to accomplish national electrification and the sole socialist country that has not committed [word indistinct] based on self-reliance to prudently build the country.

The recent troubles were due to other causes and not to the lack of international subsidies. Socialism has collapsed in many Eastern European countries. These countries once received the most Soviet subsidies. By presenting all these aspects, we want to show that Vietnam advocates the policy of advancing to socialism, even though we no longer receive Soviet subsidies like before. Despite new difficulties, we can still endure them and advance on our own.

The most important thing is that the leadership make a correct choice and avoid dogmatism, stereotyping, and voluntarism. The party is closely attached to the people, and wholeheartedly cares for and increasingly improves the people's material, spiritual, and cultural lives in order to steadily advance to socialism.

Concerning the party issue, Comrade Tran Trong Tan wrote: Some people think party members are always recruited through votes at party chapters according to the principle of subordinating the minority to the majority. This very principle allows the party to recruit only members of average ability at most. In a broader sense, geniuses are rejected. These people are usually those who have new suggestions that ordinary contemporary people cannot understand. For example, while the whole world thought the earth was static, Galileo discovered that it revolves. The society of the time held that Galileo was wrong and even tried and condemned him for making statements conflicting with the Bible. As a matter of fact, the earth does revolve. People of genius are usually individuals or a group of minority people, and minorities must be subordinate to the majority. As a result, they have all been rejected.

Hearing that, some of the officers have held that this statement is correct while others have said it is wrong but do not know how to expose what is wrong about it. I, for one, think this argument is wrong, first of all, in confusing leaders of genius with geniuses in science and technology. Party members and cadres all have cultural, technological, and theoretical knowledge. Recruiting members for the party must follow party statutes. We must select competent people trusted by the masses for social activities and revolutionary struggle movements so that once they join the party they can help the party lead the masses.

Party leadership involves assessing the situation and making decisions, some of which deal with the organization of the masses into forces and the propaganda to mobilize the masses to implement the decisions.

Through movements and practical operations, we should draw experiences in leadership to select qualified people for party membership and, at the same time, screen out bad party members. Leaders of genius should have a chance to study and receive basic and advanced training in order to have general knowledge. Nevertheless, it is most important that they must progress from activities in revolutionary movements to become mature and alert in assessing the situation and recommending solutions for higher approval. They must have the ability to organize and mobilize the masses to implement tasks. They must set good examples for the masses to follow, know how to maintain solidarity and expand the revolutionary force, and so on.

Although some people hold high academic degrees, their leadership remains poor. When recruiting party members, we must use the criteria prescribed in the statutes to weigh, examine, and make decisions by the majority. If recruiting is correctly done, leaders of genius and all those enjoying prestige among the masses can join the party to include workers, peasants, intellectuals, and even members of a ruling political party, and not the organizations of each specific scientific sector.

It is a dangerous mistake to confuse party leadership with technological organizations and operations, and on this basis to say that the party has employed only average and weak people and is unable to attract geninuses.

When founding the party, Uncle Ho let those who had joined the revolutionary movements in the country attend classes on theory and experiences in revolutionary activities. Concerning intellectuals and students, he requested that they join as workers in factories to motivate workers and select party members among them before they could mature and become leading cadres.

This working method of Uncle Ho is a good example for building the party and a political staff for the working class.

Some other people say that now is the era of technology and information science. The principle of democratic centralism is now a criterion full of data, and centers of information have been created in electronic computers, and leaders can use this information to decide and make the best decision and need not vote by majority. In times of backwardness, we could refer to a majority vote to work and draw on experience. But now is the time of information science and it is no longer necessary to do this; we should not suffer more unjustified setbacks and the people should not be used as guinea pigs.

We think these views should be taken into account only in case of programmable decisions and work that can be computerized. In performing national construction tasks, leading cadres should stay deep among and close to the masses at grassroots level. This is a good working method of paramount significance. We should not base decisions only on subjective knowledge but must be most concerned with building a network of statistics and accounting, and know how to use modern facilities and tools in management. However, it is not right to say on this basis that the party's principle of democratic centralism and the principle of voting by majority are backward and outdated.

Leadership means the formulation of positions, lines, and policies based not only on figures, but also on control of the situation of the masses and enemy, and the mastering of acquired experiences in leadership and theories. Then through debate we will point out differing views so we can see clearly what is right and what is wrong, and finally make a decision and work by a majority vote.

Such are the leaders' tasks. No electronic computers can undertake them. These should be activities for the brains of experienced and competent leaders. In order to enhance the leadership of party committees, information must be provided to each of them and all sectors and committees should be mobilized to join in properly preparing the draft projects, and sufficient time is required for party committee echelons to study and ponder draft projects and prepare their views. It is not right to come to meetings to hear and speak, lacking required information or having inaccurate or unstudied information because of insufficient time to study it.

Some other people think that since the administration has been established, the party must return all power to the people. When anti-socialist forces want to instigate the masses against the leadership of the Communist Party, they have also advanced such an argument among youths of all classes. In fact, they want to get rid of the party leadership to win the administration over to anti-communist and anti-people forces.

The decades-long course of revolutionary struggle in our country has made our people understand that the people want to become a force to struggle against the enemy, and that if they want to develop their power, they must have their own staff, which is the party, to lead them, rally forces, and serve as a firm mainstay for them. Without such a staff, the people have no power nor can they develop power. The question raised is how to reorganize the party to make it pure, strong, and firm; how to renovate its leadership, who will not operate in the place of the state; how to cause the party to be attached to the people; and how to screen degenerate and deviant elements out of the party.

Consolidating the party along the above-mentioned lines is to intensify the people's power since the party leadership is the primary condition for the people to have and develop power. Getting rid of the party's role in leadership is only meant to win over the role of leadership through the hands of other forces that run counter to the people's interests. It is necessary to expose this dangerous demagogic argument for the masses to know and not to misunderstand the deceitful voice of opportunists who capitalize on some shortcomings of the party in order to blacken and reject all revolutionary gains, separate the party from the people, and incite anti-party feelings to benefit them and other reactionary forces.

Australia

Government Urged To Change Migration Patterns

BK1205080291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0723 GMT 12 May 91

[By Jack Taylor]

[Text] Sydney, May 12 (AFP)—The Australian Government is being urged by a backbench committee to change immigration guidelines to entice migrants away from Sydney and Melbourne. Would-be migrants would be given extra points and a better chance of approval if they opted for areas away from the two major centres of population, committee chairman Bob Catley said Sunday.

Sydney, with a population of almost four million, is in the most heavily populated state of New South Wales and Melbourne is in the next most heavily populated state of Victoria. Under the proposed scheme, migrants would be granted a four-year temporary entry permit if they agreed to settle in specially designated less populated areas.

They would be granted permanent residence at the end of that period only if they had satisfied immigration officials they had fulfilled the conditional entry requirements.

"If they then successfully applied for permanent residence they could go where they liked," Mr. Catley said. "But the experience of migration to this country is that people generally stay where they settle in the first few years."

His committee was told of concern among Sydney and Melbourne MP's that existing migration patterns are causing congestion in the major cities and worsening social and economic problems including unemployment. Unemployment of almost 10 per cent, according to data released last week, has led to demands for a reduction in overall immigration.

In addition, while numbers of immigrants to the big cities have risen steadily in the last few years, other lightly populated states like South Australia have been fighting a losing battle to lure more immigrants.

Immigration data published at the weekend shows that Sydney's share of migrants has been more than 30 per cent throughout the 1980's and was 34 per cent—or 49,000 people—in 1989. Melbourne's share has been about 20 per cent.

In a seven year period to 1989, South Australia's share dropped from 8.5 per cent to 4.2 per cent, while Tasmania's dropped during the same period from 2.7 per cent to 0.6 per cent.

The data also suggests efforts to persuade migrants to go elsewhere have largely been unsuccessful. Although they may initially settle elsewhere, they eventually drift into Sydney and Melbourne because of employment opportunies or because their relatives and friends are already there. This is in spite of higher prices for accommodation and property and despite existing guidelines weighted in favour of migrants who state they want to settle outside the capital cities.

The system does not work, immigration officials admit, because there is no demand that the migrant settle in what is declared to be the preferred area and no follow-up checks to see where they go.

The backbench committee wants Immigration Minister Gerry Hand to correct what it sees as fundamental problems in the existing scheme, but Mr Hand has not so far responded publicly and was not available for comment sunday.

However a spokesman for migrant and ethnic communities, Stepan Kerkyasharian, said ethnic groups opposed the proposed scheme which they consider unworkable.

"There will be some people going to areas where they will probably be unemployed and they will just mark time and then move back to Sydney where all the jobs are," he said.

Fiji

Court Convicts Miners Over Strike Action

BK1305063091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0611 GMT 13 May 91

[Text] Suva, May 13 (AFP)—Twenty-four miners were bound over for six months and fined 30 Fijian dollars (21 U.S.) each Monday after being convicted of obstructing operations during a strike at Fiji's Australian-run Emperor Gold Mine.

Magistrate Viliame Nadakuitavuki accepted pleas for leniency, but warned strikers to expect heavier sentences if they again disrupted the mine at Vatukoula, 180 kilometres (110 miles) west of here. About 50 policemen ringed the courthouse in Tavua, near Vatukoula, during the hearing.

The Fiji Trades Union Congress had urged police not to use guns in the 12-week-old dispute, triggered by the union's demands for recognition as well as better pay and housing conditions.

About 20 of the 100-strong police force deployed in Vatukoula were armed when they broke up a picket line last week after two arson attacks on emperor premises.

"They'd better take the guns away if they know what is good for the country," said Mahendra Chaudhry, the union's secretary. "There is no breach of peace or civil strike at Vatukoula. Who are they going to shoot at, the striking miners?"

Micronesia

Leading Hotelier Named New President

BK1105141491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1127 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Suva, May 11 (AFP)—The national congress of the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) picked veteran politician, Bailey Olter saturday as president to replace John Haglelgam, who was earlier beaten in congressional elections, diplomats here said.

Mr. Olter, 66, a leading local hotelier and a former vice-president, made a comeback by winning one of the four state seats in March elections. Elections to the seats are held every four years.

He was formerly vice-president from 1983 until he lost his seat in congress in 1987 and has since been director of treasury for the capital state, Pohnpei.

Another prominent politician, Jacob Nena, who has been in the congress for the last eight terms, was named vice-president.

Both were unopposed among the four eligible candidates, representing each of the four states in the 14-member congress. The other 10 members are elected for two years in a parliamentary system that combines U.S. federal and British parliamentary styles.

David Panuelu, FSM's deputy ambassador in Suva, said the official change-over would come after the inauguration on May 21. "That is also when Haglelgam will formally step down," Mr. Panuelu said.

Mr. Olter is the FSM's third president since the former American Pacific Trust territory signed a pact with Washington for partial independence in 1979.

His first major task will be to host the 15-nation South Pacific forum meeting in July, initiated by Mr. Haglelgam.

The FSM and the Marshall Islands had their trusteeship terminated by the United Nations last December paving the way for recognition by foreign states. FSM has a 15-year Compact of Free Association with Washington under which it gets 95 million U.S. dollars yearly.

New Zealand

Army To Conduct Exercises in Western Samoa

BK1105082291 Hong Kong AFP in English 0758 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Apia, May 10 (AFP)—The New Zealand Army will conduct an exercise in Western Samoa later this year, the New Zealand High Commission here announced Friday.

Deputy High Commissioner Julian Ludbrook said the September exercise, codenamed Tropical Dawn 1991, would help New Zealand prepare for responding quickly to calls for emergency assitance from Pacific countries. The exercise will include a joint five day camp to give the New Zealanders more operational experience in a tropical climate, Mr. Ludbrook said. It will also involve Western Samoa police who will be trained in first aid and navigation, he said.

Papua New Guinea

Fuel Ban Lifted From 'Most of Bougainville'

BK1205090691 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] The Papua New Guinea Government has lifted a ban on the supply of fuel to most of Bougainville island. An extraordinary meeting at the National Security Council lifted the fuel ban to all parts of the rebel island except to the Kieta-Arawa area.

A statement issued by the prime minister, Rabbie Namaliu, says fuel will only be supplied to certified users in the stronghold of the secessionist Bougainville Revolutionary Army.

The government's decision follows the week where there has been strong criticism on the ban on supplying fuel to Bougainville with the leader of the secessionist movement, Francis Ona, saying it was preventing the delivery of medicines from Kieta to other parts of the island.

Bougainville Island Rebels Allege Misuse of Aid

BK1505072891 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 15 May 91

[Text] The rebel government on Bougainville Island has accused the Papua New Guinea Government of misusing foreign assistance and aid given to help the people on Bougainville. In a statement issued in Honiara, the rebel government said much of the foreign aid obtained by Papua New Guinea had failed to reach Bougainville. It accused the Bougainville Task Force Office in Rabaul of using the money to buy vehicles and outboard motors to support the operations of the PNG Defense Force in Buka and Bougainville.

The rebel government also attacked a plan to appeal for a meeting of donor countries and aid agencies in Singapore at the end of the month for aid to Bougainville and it criticized Sir Michael Somare's bid for the presidency of the United Nations General Assembly, calling the move hypocritical. The rebel government said Sir Michael should clean up his own backyard by implementing the Honiara Declaration before running for high office in the world body.

Ministers Defend Approval for ROK Logging

BK1105080091 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 11 May 91

[Text] Papua New Guinea's prime minister Rabbie Namaliu and the forest minister, Jack Genia have defended approval granted to a South Korean company to log more than 100,000 hectares of tropical rain forest in Madang Province. Mr. Namaliu says landowners involved in the Josephstaal project have been consulted over the development and had been involved in planning talks with the national and provincial governments and Cosmo Resources.

The prime minister says work to blockade the project do not come from genuine Josephstaal landowners but people who live in the area and outsiders who have their own ideololgies to push. The government granted approval for the Josephstaal project last week and announced that Cosmo Resources would invest $30 million [currency not further specified] and create 700 jobs for Papua New Guineans.

Mr. Namaliu says during the 15-year life of the sawn timber and pulp wood project, the company will pay the national and provincial governments and landowners more than Kina 79 million in royalties levied, infrastructure development, and agriculture development payments.

Plan for U.S. Toxic Waste Incinerator Rejected

BK1005150591 Hong Kong AFP in English 0800 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Port Moresby, May 10 (AFP)—Papua New Guinea has rejected a proposal to set up a toxic waste incinerator for hazardous garbage shipped from the United States.

The proposal, from Californian-based Global Telesis, was being considered by former Conservation and Environment Minister Jim Yer Waim.

But his successor Michael Singan said Friday he had rejected the proposal.

"The national government will not permit the dumping of any overseas waste within Papua New Guinea either now or in the future," Mr. Singan told a news conference.

Global Telesis had proposed a 30 million kina ($31 million U.S.) high temperature incinerator near Popondetta, capital of Oro Province.

Solomon Islands

Public Servants Return To Work After Strike

BK1005075091 Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0500 GMT 10 May 91

[Text] Public servants in Solomon Islands have ended a three-week old strike. The nearly 4,000 strikers returned to work today after one of their main demands was referred to a trade dispute panel. They are demanding the termination of contracts of permanent secretaries who were given a 113 percent pay rise last year. The Governmnent had earlier agreed to the public servants' other main demand—a 16 percent pay increase.

Tonga

MP Asks 'Ineffective' Prime Minister To Resign

BK1205113091 Hong Kong AFP in English 0844 GMT 12 May 91

[Text] Nuku'alofa, May 12 (AFP)—Tonga's ailing royal prime minister is ineffective and should resign, according to Teisina Fuko, a commoner member of the legislative assembly.

The resignation call and severe criticisms of the cabinet of Prime Minister Prince Fatafehi Tu'ipelehake, the brother of King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV, are to appear in an interview with Mr. Fuko in this week's edition of THE TIMES OF TONGA.

The prince, who took over as prime minister from his brother when he became king in 1966, is still suffering from the effects of a stroke and is incapable of disciplining government ministers, Mr. Fuko said.

Ministers and the prime minister are appointed for life by the king.

Mr. Fuko, a second-term MP and a commoner in an assembly dominated by royals and nobles, has markedly escalated the pro-democracy campaign by calling for the prince to step down.

But, he said, the government has effectively been operating without a prime minister for some time, because of the prince's illness.

"The ministers seem to be running in so many different directions because they are without a leader," Mr. Fuko said in the interview. "It's time we have a new prime minister."

Poor performances by a number of "yes men" ministers and nobles have embarrassed the king, and they are not providing him with correct information on the country's affairs, Mr. Fuko said.

"Most of the ministers do not think before they speak, and some of them give out wrong information," Mr. Fuko said.

"I also dare say that lying is not uncommon among them," he charged, citing the sale of Tongan passports and citizenship to Hong Kong residents and others, including the late Phillipines President Ferdinand Marcos and his wife Imelda.

Mr. Fuko said noble 'Akau'ola, the police and immigration minister, had denied in parliament any knowledge of the scheme only to admit later that he had been aware of it.

"Dishonesty is common among these 'yes men' of the king, and yet they continue to bring embarrassment to his majesty when things are uncovered for what they are," Mr. Fuko said.

The sales were determined to be illegal and the assembly was forced to sit in special session earlier this year to retroactively legalise them.

Mr. Fuko said Tongans are increasingly questioning many of the government's actions and, worse, openly questioning the king.

He said he believed the king was innocent of involvement in the passport issue and that the government must take the blame, with the prime minister accepting final responsibility.

The relationship between the king and the people is important, said Mr. Fuko.

"The king can always get himself new ministers, but it is most important that he retains the respect of his people."

New Cabinet Includes First Female Member

BK1505015091 Hong Kong AFP in English 2235 GMT 14 May 91

[Text] Apia, May 14 (AFP)—Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana Tuesday named the first woman to ever be given Cabinet rank in Western Samoa, the government announced.

Following April's general election Tofilau reshuffled his Cabinet, keeping only two of his former eight-person Cabinet.

Named to the education and labour portfolios was 34-year-old Fiame Naomi, a third term MP.

Her father was Samoa's first prime minister, the late Fiame Mata'afa Mulinu'u II, while her mother is currently Samoa's consul-general in Auckland, Laulu Fetauimalemau Mata'afa.

Retaining their Cabinet ranks are Finance Minister Tuilaepa Sailele while former public works minister Jack Netzler takes over agriculture.